# Yahoo Group Archive: cw_bugs

These Yahoo Groups messages were archived in WARC format by ArchiveTeam in 2018. This PDF was generated by Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications from the WARC files in 2026.

Date span: 2006-10-21 through 2018-02-13

Source WARC: cw_bugs.mQlSs2y.warc.gz

Source item: https://archive.org/details/yahoo-groups-2018-02-26T15-12-43Z-398664

Messages included in this PDF: 2667

Message records with no body available in the source archive: 3

Messages omitted as spam from this PDF: 1

Yahoo replaced the domain portions of email addresses with @... in the archived messages. Characters lost in Yahoo's archived text appear as ?.

Messages are presented in ascending Yahoo message-ID order. Gaps indicate records absent from the source WARC or messages omitted from this PDF as spam.

# 1. Hello!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-21 21:51:08 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 1  Message: 1

Well Earl... you finally did it. Will you mention this group on the SKCC list? Some bug users there may want to join in.

73,
Kev K4VD

## 2. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-21 22:04:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1  Message: 2

At 03:51 PM 10/21/2006, Kevin der Kinderen wrote:

>Well Earl... you finally did it. Will you mention this group on the
>SKCC list? Some bug users there may want to join in.
>
>73,
>Kev K4VD

Yes I will! The more the merrier, I would think!

7 3
Earl

Earl Needham, KD5XB, Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

## 3. Re: Hello!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-21 22:09:09 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1  Message: 3

At 03:51 PM 10/21/2006, Kevin der Kinderen wrote:

>Well Earl... you finally did it. Will you mention this group on the
>SKCC list? Some bug users there may want to join in.
>
>73,
>Kev K4VD

Yes I will! The more the merrier, I would think!

7 3
Earl

P.S. Kev, you had the privelege of posting message #1 to the group!

Email is running a little slow, so you may see this twice.

## 4. New list info

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-21 22:51:28 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 4  Message: 4

The list is one hour old, and so far we have 5
members. Initially, I had set the list to moderate all new members,
but with around 50 invitations out there, I have temporarily set the
list to allow new members to post. If and when this becomes a
problem, we may go back to moderation for new members.

You may also notice that we have some photo albums already
uploaded, and I brought the database over from the old list. If that
causes problems, I'll delete it and we'll reload it manually.

I have also set the list to delete attachments, so as to
prevent virus problems. (It will also prevent somebody from sending
us a 30 Mb swap file and choking all our email servers! LOL...)

I am hoping that all will assist with the running of this
list and I hope we have a pretty active list.

7 3
Earl

Earl Needham, KD5XB, Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

## 5. The W3ZVT Bug Collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 00:09:08 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 5  Message: 5

I just saw W3ZVT's collection of bugs in the photos section. Absolutely impressive!

How many years have you been collecting? Any favorites or good stories behind any of them?

73,
Kev K4VD

## 6. Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 00:49:09 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 6  Message: 6

Hello Earl and the Group,

Congrats on the group. I hope it is very active.

I have but 3 Vibroplex bugs and will try to get some pics on later.
I'm still learning how to use them.

73,

Don, NN8B

## 7. Re: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 00:58:46 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 7

At 06:49 PM 10/21/2006, Don wrote:

>Hello Earl and the Group,
>
>Congrats on the group. I hope it is very active.
>
>I have but 3 Vibroplex bugs and will try to get some pics on later.

I only have ONE!

>I'm still learning how to use them.

Me too! But since I originally learned CW with a Ten-Tec
KR-50 iambic keyer and not a straight key, it doesn't seem too hard
for me. About the only thing I really need to do now is get a dipole
of something up and OPERATE...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 8. Re: The W3ZVT Bug Collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 00:59:41 UTC
From: tentec2002
Topic: 5  Message: 8

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Kevin der Kinderen" <k4vd@...> wrote:
>
> I just saw W3ZVT's collection of bugs in the photos section. Absolutely
> impressive!
>
> How many years have you been collecting? Any favorites or good stories
> behind any of them?
>
> 73,
> Kev K4VD
>
I've been collecting for about 15 years. I guess my favorite is the
Double Lever with the X Model a close second. The best story is the
guy that put a Vibro on eBay saying it was a POS. The base was pretty
ratty but the upper works were in good shape. I got it for 45 bucks
and had the base glass beaded and refinished it, cleaned up the upper
works and ended up with a very nice LEFT HANDED VIBRO. It is the
third one in my collection and left handed Vibroplexes are fairly rare.
73
Tim W3ZVT, Ex CN8GV, F7CY

# 9. Re: The W3ZVT Bug Collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 01:13:34 UTC
From: tentec2002
Topic: 5  Message: 9

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Kevin der Kinderen" <k4vd@...> wrote:
>
> I just saw W3ZVT's collection of bugs in the photos section. Absolutely
> impressive!
>
> How many years have you been collecting? Any favorites or good stories
> behind any of them?
>
> 73,
> Kev K4VD
>
Kev,
I replied already but it appears it didn't take. Been collecting for
about 15 years. Favorite bugs are my Model X and Double Lever. Best
story is the guy that had a key on eBay that he called a POS. Base
was ratty but the upperworks were good. Got it for 45 bucks and
refinished the base after getting it glass blasted. Nice looking LEFT
HANDED key when I got finished. Only have two others in my
collection. Factory Left Handed keys are kinda rare.
73
Tim W3ZVT, Ex CN8GV, F7CY

# 10. Identify Year of Newer Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 17:37:20 UTC
From: K4VD
Topic: 10  Message: 10

I have a newer Vibroplex Original I bought from Ebay. The standard source for serial numbers that I know of doesn't reach this number. Can anyone tell me when this bug might have been made?

SN 109902 11 Motown Park, E., Mobile, AL USA

73,
Kev, K4VD
SKCC 605 C 4
FISTS 11712 CC 1798
HYPERLINK "http://kj4qf.net/"http://kj4qf.net/

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 11. Re: [cw_bugs] Identify Year of Newer Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 18:35:54 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 10  Message: 11

Kev,
A Black base original I got six months ago had sn 110545, the two
Iambics I got last week had serials 110855 and 110732. That's 310
serial numbers in 6 months, using onageristic determination (wild assed
guess), it would appear that your key is about two years old.
73
Tim W3ZVT. Ex CN8GV, F7CY
Fists 4227, SKCC 1349, ARCI 9809

K4VD wrote:

> I have a newer Vibroplex Original I bought from Ebay. The standard source
> for serial numbers that I know of doesn't reach this number. Can
> anyone tell
> me when this bug might have been made?
>
> SN 109902 11 Motown Park, E., Mobile, AL USA
>
> 73,
> Kev, K4VD
> SKCC 605 C 4
> FISTS 11712 CC 1798
> HYPERLINK "http://kj4qf.net/ <http://kj4qf.net/>"http://kj4qf.net/
> <http://kj4qf.net/>
>
>
> --
> No virus found in this outgoing message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.
> Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 12. RE: [cw_bugs] Identify Year of Newer Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 18:44:25 UTC
From: K4VD
Topic: 10  Message: 12

Sounds good. I'm actually giving this key to someone else so I wanted to be able to tell him about what age. I'll say it is 2000 or newer and that will be close enough to cover the guess.

Thanks for the info. Maybe we'll have another new member after he gets the key. I'll put a "business card" in there to invite him.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://kj4qf.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Tim Soxman
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2006 2:36 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Identify Year of Newer Bug

Kev,
A Black base original I got six months ago had sn 110545, the two Iambics I got last week had serials 110855 and 110732. That's 310 serial numbers in 6 months, using onageristic determination (wild assed guess), it would appear that your key is about two years old.
73
Tim W3ZVT. Ex CN8GV, F7CY
Fists 4227, SKCC 1349, ARCI 9809

K4VD wrote:

> I have a newer Vibroplex Original I bought from Ebay. The standard
> source for serial numbers that I know of doesn't reach this number.
> Can anyone tell me when this bug might have been made?
>
> SN 109902 11 Motown Park, E., Mobile, AL USA
>
> 73,
> Kev, K4VD
> SKCC 605 C 4
> FISTS 11712 CC 1798
> HYPERLINK "http://kj4qf.net/ <http://kj4qf.net/>"http://kj4qf.net/
> <http://kj4qf.net/>
>
>
> --
> No virus found in this outgoing message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.

> Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date:
> 10/20/2006
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Yahoo! Groups Links

--
No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

--
No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

## 13. Varispeed from Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 18:55:00 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 13  Message: 13

Someone recently posted a picture to the pictures section of their "one and only bug" - a Presentation with an adjustable mainspring.

One of the photos shows the attached (newer) Varispeed at the lower part of the vibrating rod.

What genius!

The placement is perfect, but does the "height" of the Varispeed alow it to swivel backwards?

If not - this should be changed and this should be the intended mounting instructions.

If a Varispeed could be mounted so, and swiveled, it would be the best thing since sliced bread.

73

David N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 14. Re: [cw_bugs] Varispeed from Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 20:08:07 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 13  Message: 14

In a message dated 10/22/2006 3:06:40 PM Eastern Daylight Time, n1ea@...
writes:

> Someone recently posted a picture to the pictures section of their "one and
> only bug" - a Presentation with an adjustable mainspring.
>
> One of the photos shows the attached (newer) Varispeed at the lower part of
> the vibrating rod.
>
> What genius!
>
> The placement is perfect, but does the "height" of the Varispeed alow it to
> swivel backwards?
>
> If not - this should be changed and this should be the intended mounting
> instructions.
>
> If a Varispeed could be mounted so, and swiveled, it would be the best thing
> since sliced bread.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

David,
I have a Varispeed on my old Presentation with adjustable mainspring. And,
indeed, it goes both ways, so if its mounted in the middle of the pendulum, you
can swing it away from the op to slow it down, and swing it toward the op to
speed it up. The mounting position pretty much determines the speed range.
The only limiter for slow speed is the potition of the damper which will halt
the "away" swing.
vy 73 David,
Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 15. Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 20:15:45 UTC
From: n2fq
Topic: 6  Message: 15

Hello everyone.
Thanks Earl for the invitation.
Hope to learn abit from others.

My modest collection of bug is now up to nine and started about
two years ago. Got hooked when I purchase a Collins Collector
Original, a Vibroplex edition that was offered (still is).

Consist of the following and picture will be added later.

Vibroplex 100th with Jeweled bearing.
Vibroplex 1942 Blue racer
Vibroplex CCA (Collins number) original
Vibroplex 1959 Original
Vibroplex Deluxe Lightning with jeweled bearings. (tnx to N1EA)
MacKey 1939 Deluxe (marble finish)
Les Logan Speed X Model 501 (T handle)
Les Logan Speed X Modle 520

One Japanese coffin semiauto bug that I can't remember is name.

Anyhoot, use them all. I rotate on a whim.

I'm on a prowl for a double lever. Never used one
but have read about them and how they suppose
to solve that dit to dah delay, or something like that.

Now a question:

To avoid desktop clutter with all those wires, how are the others
get a handle on this?

I resorted to putting chassis ground lugs (the spaded ones not the star type) to the keys,
and use spring loaded test leads to move from one key to another.

Another solution I was thinking about was to make a circuit board between
the posts (with oblong holes) and a mini jack mounted on it. Then just
use a mini plug to change from key to key.

Looking for other ideas.

One last point. If you find yourself out here in the Bay area, please feel
free to contact me and try out any of my keys.

# 16. Re: [cw_bugs] Varispeed from Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 20:22:16 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 13  Message: 16

BTW, Vibroplex is now carrying a Varispeed that will fit the Lightning Bug, Champ, and Zephyr flat pendulums.
Tim W3ZVT

k4oso@... wrote:

> In a message dated 10/22/2006 3:06:40 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
> n1ea@... <mailto:n1ea%40arrl.net>
> writes:
>
> > Someone recently posted a picture to the pictures section of their
> "one and
> > only bug" - a Presentation with an adjustable mainspring.
> >
> > One of the photos shows the attached (newer) Varispeed at the lower
> part of
> > the vibrating rod.
> >
> > What genius!
> >
> > The placement is perfect, but does the "height" of the Varispeed
> alow it to
> > swivel backwards?
> >
> > If not - this should be changed and this should be the intended
> mounting
> > instructions.
> >
> > If a Varispeed could be mounted so, and swiveled, it would be the
> best thing
> > since sliced bread.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > David N1EA
> >
>
> David,
> I have a Varispeed on my old Presentation with adjustable mainspring.
> And,
> indeed, it goes both ways, so if its mounted in the middle of the
> pendulum, you
> can swing it away from the op to slow it down, and swing it toward the
> op to
> speed it up. The mounting position pretty much determines the speed

> range.
> The only limiter for slow speed is the potition of the damper which
> will halt
> the "away" swing.
> vy 73 David,
> Milt k4oso
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 17. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 20:36:41 UTC
From: K4VD
Topic: 6  Message: 17

I have a bit of a rats nest behind my keys. At the moment I've got five hooked up in parallel so I can swap around easily. Currently, it is all hook-up wire.

To cut the number of wires in half, I'm thinking of getting some two conductor cable to run between each key. Still a rats nest but smaller.

There is that spiral stuff that you can wrap around bundles of cable with space for the individual wires to exit along the way. If I can find a few feet of that I might try it to clean things up a bit more.

I have not found any better way to put it all together. I like the spade lug idea and will probably add that to the wires.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://kj4qf.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of n2fq
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2006 4:16 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Greetings

<snip>

Now a question:

To avoid desktop clutter with all those wires, how are the others get a handle on this?

I resorted to putting chassis ground lugs (the spaded ones not the star type) to the keys, and use spring loaded test leads to move from one key to another.

Another solution I was thinking about was to make a circuit board between the posts (with oblong holes) and a mini jack mounted on it. Then just use a mini plug to change from key to key.

Looking for other ideas.

One last point. If you find yourself out here in the Bay area, please feel free to contact me and try out any of my keys.

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

# 18. Re: Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-22 21:16:39 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 6  Message: 18

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n2fq" <n2fq@...> wrote:
>
> Now a question:
>
> To avoid desktop clutter with all those wires, how are the others
> get a handle on this?
>

I find the best way is the original way. I have (so far) 4 keys I rotate and have wedges on all of them. Just plug in into the resident straight key and go.

I now need a source for more wedges. If anyone knows where to get them I would like to know.

It looks like they may be easy to make, however, by using an old 1/4" phone plug insulated casing and some copper strips and an insulator. The old fabric covered wire with the strain relief cord may be a problem.

73,

Don, NN8B

## 19. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 02:43:56 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 19

At 03:16 PM 10/22/2006, Don wrote:
>I now need a source for more wedges. If anyone knows where to get
>them I would like to know.

I don't know why, but I keep thinking Vibroplex still sells
them. However, a quick search of the web site comes up empty.

Sometimes you see them on eBay.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

## 20. Re: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 02:47:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 20

At 02:15 PM 10/22/2006, n2fq wrote:
><snip>
>My modest collection of bug is now up to nine and started about
>two years ago. Got hooked when I purchase a Collins Collector
>Original, a Vibroplex edition that was offered (still is).
>
><snip>
>Now a question:
>
>To avoid desktop clutter with all those wires, how are the others
>get a handle on this?

You mean you keep them all on your desk at the same time?

>I resorted to putting chassis ground lugs (the spaded ones not the
>star type) to the keys,
>and use spring loaded test leads to move from one key to another.
>
>Another solution I was thinking about was to make a circuit board between
>the posts (with oblong holes) and a mini jack mounted on it. Then just
>use a mini plug to change from key to key.
>
>Looking for other ideas.

Try Anderson PowerPoles, in a color other than red and
black. Take a look at
http://www.powerwerx.com/category.asp?CtgID=3578 . You could use a
regular 1/4" plug with about 6" of cord on it, then the
PowerPoles. That way, the PowerPoles could be hidden behind your
rig, if you wanted.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

## 21. Re: [cw_bugs] Varispeed from Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 02:53:58 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 13  Message: 21

At 02:08 PM 10/22/2006, k4oso@... wrote:

>David,
>I have a Varispeed on my old Presentation with adjustable mainspring. And,
>indeed, it goes both ways, so if its mounted in the middle of the
>pendulum, you
>can swing it away from the op to slow it down, and swing it toward the op to
>speed it up. The mounting position pretty much determines the speed range.
>The only limiter for slow speed is the potition of the damper which will halt
>the "away" swing.
>vy 73 David,
>Milt k4oso

It's possible to mount the VariSpeed farther out on the rod,
so that the entire weight is beyond the damper, but I can't imagine
doing that -- it's pretty slow already as it is, perhaps 10-12 WPM or
so. Swiveling it toward the finger pieces speeds it up more than I
want to think about, and that's with both a small weight AND a large
weight on it.

On second thought, maybe I DO need it slower -- 10 or so is
enough to make my brain hurt trying to copy it! <G>

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

## 22. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 03:41:55 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 6  Message: 22

I bought three wedges two years ago.

Call Vibroplex and ask for Betsy (tell her David sent you!) - she might have
some left.

73

David N1EA
----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2006 10:43 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Greetings

At 03:16 PM 10/22/2006, Don wrote:
>I now need a source for more wedges. If anyone knows where to get
>them I would like to know.

I don't know why, but I keep thinking Vibroplex still sells
them. However, a quick search of the web site comes up empty.

Sometimes you see them on eBay.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.0.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.9/490 - Release Date: 10/20/2006

# 23. Re: Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 12:45:24 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 6  Message: 23

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I bought three wedges two years ago.
>
> Call Vibroplex and ask for Betsy (tell her David sent you!) - she
might have
> some left.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA

Thanks David, I'll give her a try.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 24. Re: [cw_bugs] Multiple bugs wiring (was Greetings)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-23 21:50:06 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 6  Message: 24

On Oct 22, 2006, at 7:47 PM, Earl Needham wrote:

>>
>> To avoid desktop clutter with all those wires, how are the others
>> get a handle on this?
>
> You mean you keep them all on your desk at the same time?
>

No, I have a cabinet with glass door and shelving and find that all
that wire (a set for each bug) bunched up next to the
each key distracts from the looks.

I put a picture of what I'm currently using in the photo section.

Don't like to unscrew and screw done a lugs every time I change keys.

Just want to get ideas on how others are doing it

>
> Try Anderson PowerPoles, in a color other than red and
> black. Take a look at
> http://www.powerwerx.com/category.asp?CtgID=3578 . You could use a
> regular 1/4" plug with about 6" of cord on it, then the
> PowerPoles. That way, the PowerPoles could be hidden behind your
> rig, if you wanted.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
>

Yes that would work. tnx.

Fernando Quinones N2FQ

# 25. Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-27 15:36:07 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 25  Message: 25

Hey, I'd like to acquire one of the older cases for my bug
-- they were apparently made of wood and covered with thin
leather. I see them on eBay from time to time, but they're nearly
always with a bug and go for more than I'm willing to bid.

Does anyone on here have a spare case they'd like to sell?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

## 26. Re: [cw_bugs] Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-27 16:48:12 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 25  Message: 26

The cases are quite a deal - and you get a "new" bug with them on eBay.

You can purchase an even better quality bug case than the old ones directly from Vibroplex.

http://www.vibroplex.com/accessories.html

They come in two models - for the larger bugs: Lightning Bug, Presentation, Original, and Champion, and also for the small bugs, Blue Racer and Blue Racer Millenium (BR2000).

There isn't a case for the Zephyr which has a base between the small bug and the larger bugs.

The problem with buying a "spare" case is "What does the seller replace it with?" He'd replace it with a $99.95 new case, so why should he sell it.

Usually the older cases are quite unreliable as the straps were leather and by now (the cases are from 1970 and before) the leather will break, and the bug will fall on the floor.

Buy yourself a new case - pay the price - you will feel the pinch ONE time when you pay it. Then forever after, you will have a beautiful case and you will love having it.

Right now, Vibroplex has cosmetic "seconds" for both types and they're priced at $74.96. Contact Betsy at Vibroplex and tell her "David Ring told me to call you!" - She'd love to hear from you.

73

David Ring
N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Cc: skcc@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2006 11:36 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Looking for...

Hey, I'd like to acquire one of the older cases for my bug -- they were apparently made of wood and covered with thin leather. I see them on eBay from time to time, but they're nearly always with a bug and go for more than I'm willing to bid.

Does anyone on here have a spare case they'd like to sell?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.0.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.16/504 - Release Date: 10/27/2006

# 27. N1EA - A Case for Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-27 18:39:07 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 27  Message: 27

David,
I've been thinking/planning to build cases for my different size bugs. It seems I'm always carting them from one shack to the other, using the trunion as a carrying handle. Its only a matter of time..... Not having an old case to go by, I guess I'll have to experiment with the inside configuration. I'd like the thing to be "drop proof" as much as possible, meaning I'll have to have a detent for the paddle end of the base as well as immobilize the end of the pendulum and have minimum tolerance for the trunion and damper on the top. It will probably take a while to get it figured out, but once I have it, I might make a few. Of course, its got to have a nice soft interior to prevent scratching my "kids".
Hoped to hear you on HSG, but no joy.
73, Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 28. Re: [cw_bugs] Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-27 18:55:56 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 25  Message: 28

At 10:48 AM 10/27/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:

>The cases are quite a deal - and you get a "new" bug with them on eBay.
>
>You can purchase an even better quality bug case than the old ones directly
>from Vibroplex.
><snip>

Yes, but the real reason I'd like an older case is just
because it is older. I'd also like all kinds of other stuff that I
don't really want to spring the cash for -- like a Collins S-line or
even a KWM-2A, 30S-1, 30L-1, Swan 700, etc...

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 29. Re: [cw_bugs] N1EA - A Case for Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-28 18:24:02 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 27  Message: 29

Sounds like a good idea. The Vibroplex cases aren't all that expensive for what you get. It seems people are always complaining about the prices of keys! Why do they think they should cost $10? It amazes me - they go and spend $250 on a microphonium - and what does that do? It makes noises. Who wants a radio that talks? Mine squeeks and that's ok - but I'm still working on it to sound like the roar of spark.

Did you bid on that beautiful Marconi 365 on eBay I sent you an email on? It went cheaply I see.

73

DR

----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2006 2:39 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] N1EA - A Case for Bug

David,
I've been thinking/planning to build cases for my different size bugs. It seems I'm always carting them from one shack to the other, using the trunion as a carrying handle. Its only a matter of time..... Not having an old case to go by, I guess I'll have to experiment with the inside configuration. I'd like the thing to be "drop proof" as much as possible, meaning I'll have to have a detent for the paddle end of the base as well as immobilize the end of the pendulum and have minimum tolerance for the trunion and damper on the top. It will probably take a while to get it figured out, but once I have it, I might make a few. Of course, its got to have a nice soft interior to prevent scratching my "kids".
Hoped to hear you on HSG, but no joy.
73, Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.0.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.16/504 - Release Date: 10/27/2006

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 30. Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-28 21:24:52 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 25  Message: 30

I wanted a case for my Johnson SpeedX bug. Decided to build one. First was pine and the second was maple.

I have new and great respect for craftsmen making fine jewelry boxes for their wife or girlfriend. It is tedious work making something small, strong, and eye appealing.

Brass hinges and latch with brass handle on the maple box. Leather on the pine box.

I can tell you that the $100 case from Vibroplex is not a bad idea. Unless, you have the time and equipment to work with.

# 31. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-28 22:19:13 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 25  Message: 31

In a message dated 10/28/2006 5:26:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
w2blc@... writes:

> I wanted a case for my Johnson SpeedX bug. Decided to build one. First
> was pine and the second was maple.
>
>
Do you have plans/specs for the SpeedX bug case? Would like to build one.
By the way, were you satisfied with the look of yours compared to the Vibroplex
case?
73, Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 32. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 00:51:39 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 25  Message: 32

Unless you're a woodworker - which I am not - I don't think that the $75 (approx.) price of the "second" from Vibroplex is that out of line. They have two top hinges (or a piano hinge), latch(es?), handle, perhaps metal corner bumpers, name plate, wood, work.

To me that's a no-brainer. "My case" will be worth $2.00, Vibroplex's case will be worth $40.00.

I am not a builder - I can't see that well.

73
DR
----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2006 6:19 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

In a message dated 10/28/2006 5:26:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
w2blc@... writes:

> I wanted a case for my Johnson SpeedX bug. Decided to build one. First
> was pine and the second was maple.
>
>
Do you have plans/specs for the SpeedX bug case? Would like to build one.
By the way, were you satisfied with the look of yours compared to the Vibroplex
case?
73, Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.428 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006 3:15 PM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 33. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 01:38:08 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 25  Message: 33

In a message dated 10/28/2006 9:07:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time, n1ea@...
writes:

> Unless you're a woodworker - which I am not - I don't think that the $75
> (approx.) price of the "second" from Vibroplex is that out of line. They have
> two top hinges (or a piano hinge), latch(es?), handle, perhaps metal corner
> bumpers, name plate, wood, work.
>
Oh, I think the Vibroplex case (wooden) is probably a pretty good value. I
just don't particularly like the look of it. To me, its too blond and looks
like a file box. However, if I weren't a woodworker it still would be my first
choice of a way to go. I 'd like to make one more along the lines of the old
square cross-section case. Also, I think a darker (or figured) wood would
look a lot nicer. It should be a fun project (maybe this winter). The big
challenge will be deciding which bug comes first.
73, Milt

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 34. Re: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 01:34:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 34

At 02:15 PM 10/22/2006, n2fq wrote:
><snip>
>Another solution I was thinking about was to make a circuit board between
>the posts (with oblong holes) and a mini jack mounted on it. Then just
>use a mini plug to change from key to key.

I went to the Socorro hamfest today, and had a great
time. While there, I saw a bug set up like this, with a short piece
of perfboard and a minijack. I have to say, once I saw it, this is
the SLICKEST way of doing what you want that I can imagine. I
suggest you forget PowerPoles and anything else and go with the
mini-jack on a PCB.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 35. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 01:43:31 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
Topic: 6  Message: 35

If someone does this, take a picture and post it. I'm having a hard time seeing it in my head.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Earl Needham
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2006 9:35 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Greetings

I went to the Socorro hamfest today, and had a great time. While there, I saw a bug set up like this, with a short piece of perfboard and a minijack. I have to say, once I saw it, this is the SLICKEST way of doing what you want that I can imagine. I suggest you forget PowerPoles and anything else and go with the mini-jack on a PCB.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.408 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006

# 36. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 01:50:52 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 36

\At 07:43 PM 10/28/2006, Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD wrote:
>If someone does this, take a picture and post it. I'm having a hard time
>seeing it in my head.

You can just barely tell it in the top picture at
http://www.kt5x.com/gallery.asp?keytype=2

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 37. Key "Quick Connect"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 02:55:22 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 37  Message: 37

A double sided piece of circuit board (copper on both sides) would work well.

```
_________________
|
O <==================== (To phone plug)=====>
|_________________
|_________________
|
O <==================== (To phone plug)=====>
|__________________
```

The "O" on the left is actually a notch cut in the circuit board - that notch and the one below it are cut so that the circuit board can slip under the terminal binding nuts and rest on the base of the terminal screw spacers.

Simply by loosening the two binding nuts, the device can be slipped in or out.

The WIRES to the phone plug are soldered onto the "top" of the circuit board. Of course because the binding screw spacers elevate the connections above the key base, the circuit board can be used "up" or "down".

73

David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2006 9:50 PM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

\At 07:43 PM 10/28/2006, Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD wrote:
>If someone does this, take a picture and post it. I'm having a hard time
>seeing it in my head.

You can just barely tell it in the top picture at
http://www.kt5x.com/gallery.asp?keytype=2

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.428 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006
3:15 PM

# 38. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 03:09:11 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 25  Message: 38

Call Vibroplex and ask if you can buy one before they are varnished. Or ask if you can have the maker of the cases stain yours a particular color.

The old cases were soft pine, and covered with thin plastic "shelf liner" - which Vibroplex called "Moroccon Leatherette" - or something like that. (Genuine Replica !)

If you dropped one of those cases, it would fragment open. I believe the newer cases are MUCH better made.

So buy one of them - take the hinges apart, strip it and stain it.

Certainly a LOT less work than doing cabinet work. I don't have one here - but if I remember correctly, the top is routed out so that it fits like a step, and the hinges are also routed out so they're recessed. I do remember that it was a very good job of cabinet making - I don't remember how the joins were made - but I don't think it was glued and stapled with a pneumatic gun! I think it was quite a good job.

73
DR
----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2006 9:38 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

In a message dated 10/28/2006 9:07:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
n1ea@...
writes:

> Unless you're a woodworker - which I am not - I don't think that the $75
> (approx.) price of the "second" from Vibroplex is that out of line. They
> have
> two top hinges (or a piano hinge), latch(es?), handle, perhaps metal
> corner
> bumpers, name plate, wood, work.
>
Oh, I think the Vibroplex case (wooden) is probably a pretty good value. I just don't particularly like the look of it. To me, its too blond and looks like a file box. However, if I weren't a woodworker it still would be my first
choice of a way to go. I 'd like to make one more along the lines of the old square cross-section case. Also, I think a darker (or figured) wood would look a lot nicer. It should be a fun project (maybe this winter). The big challenge will be deciding which bug comes first.
73, Milt

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.428 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006
3:15 PM

# 39. Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 03:16:33 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 25  Message: 39

This winter I'll build another case. This will be for the bug to live in and be used from - without having to remove same from the case. Same "flip-top" as the Vibroplex cases had (original black leatherette covered telegrapher's case) - for the same purpose.

You brought your key to work with you. Sat down and opened the case. Then you pulled the wire with the wedge on it out and put the wedge between the desk key's contacts. You were now ready for your 8 hour shift. Clickity clack!

If, and I say again IF, I decide to build any cases - they will be of this style. I will have to build jigs for the project and redesign the type of joinery used. Have to see what the winter brings. I'll post a picture when the first "operator's case" is finished.

In case you have not visited my site - take a look at:
http://www.radiotelegraphy.net/

# 40. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 04:46:08 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 25  Message: 40

At the different radiotelegraph stations I worked at, bugs were stored in "cubby holes" - each operator had one for mail, work notices, and storing small items - such as your bug and headset.

The station always furnished a station key - which usually was a Johnson or Nye Viking oval straight key with no shorting bar, but the shorting bar lip was perfect for inserting the wedge that was sold by Vibroplex, McElroy, and furnished by Western Union and others to their operators. As electronic keyers became common the station also furnished a phone jack for inserting the keyer (or a phone plug for your key).

There was no need of a shorting bar for commercial radiotelegraphy at larger stations because the transmitters were usually remoted from the receiver site - usually 5 to 30 miles away.

However, I've never ever seen anyone operate a bug from inside a box. The box was just to keep dust off the key and allow transportation from storage to operator's desk.

The Japanese Hi-Mound bug with the plastic cover is the only bug I've ever seen used in a "covered" state!

When the "watch" was over, the operator would take his headset and key and "secure" the watch and pass it off to the new watchstander.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: w2blc
<snip>
This winter I'll build another case. This will be for the bug to live in and be used from - without having to remove same from the case. <snip>
You brought your key to work with you. Sat down and opened the case. Then you pulled the wire with the wedge on it out and put the wedge between the desk key's contacts. You were now ready for your 8 hour shift. Clickity clack!
<snip>

# 41. Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 16:00:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 41  Message: 41

In our charter, we mention the following:
>>This group has been created specifically for licensed ham radio
>>operators and telegraph key collectors, owners of the Vibroplex brand.
>>If you are a CW enthusiast, please come and join in this group to
>>discuss, trade key parts (at your own risk) and exchange on the subject.
>>Only Vibroplex equipment, and/or morse (international or
>>continental) related messages will be accepted.
>>The administration of this group has no interest in the Vibroplex
>>Company Inc. or any of it's affiliates.

I'm wondering if it might be OK to open the list up to ALL
bugs -- but I'm not going to do this on my own, I want approval from
the membership for this. If the membership says "no", then we'll
keep it the same.

Any thoughts on this?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 42. RE: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 16:21:58 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
Topic: 41  Message: 42

I vote all bugs. There are plenty of bugs out there besides Vibroplex and I think plenty of ideas to share between us.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Earl Needham
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 11:00 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Purpose

In our charter, we mention the following:
>>This group has been created specifically for licensed ham radio
>>operators and telegraph key collectors, owners of the Vibroplex brand.
>>If you are a CW enthusiast, please come and join in this group to
>>discuss, trade key parts (at your own risk) and exchange on the subject.
>>Only Vibroplex equipment, and/or morse (international or
>>continental) related messages will be accepted.
>>The administration of this group has no interest in the Vibroplex
>>Company Inc. or any of it's affiliates.

I'm wondering if it might be OK to open the list up to ALL bugs --
but I'm not going to do this on my own, I want approval from the membership for this. If the membership says "no", then we'll keep it the same.

Any thoughts on this?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 43. Re: [cw_bugs] Multiple bug wiring (was Greetings)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 17:28:23 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 6  Message: 43

Earl thanks for sharing the picture. Yes.. that's the ticket, hi.

I have some Radio Shack pc boards and sure will hack at it to make
something similar.

Oh.. on another note, no problem opening up to other bugs.

I'm sure many here have bugs other than Vibroplex.

N1EA.. thanks for the diagram, it gave me another idea, no need to
drill holes

for the post as I was thinking. Now just make a large notch on the
edge of the pc board

so that I can move to my other bugs which don't have the same
distances between posts.

Good luck on that double lever..hi.

take care all

On Oct 28, 2006, at 6:34 PM, Earl Needham wrote:

> At 02:15 PM 10/22/2006, n2fq wrote:
>> <snip>
>> Another solution I was thinking about was to make a circuit board
>> between
>> the posts (with oblong holes) and a mini jack mounted on it. Then
>> just
>> use a mini plug to change from key to key.
>
> I went to the Socorro hamfest today, and had a great
> time. While there, I saw a bug set up like this, with a short piece
> of perfboard and a minijack. I have to say, once I saw it, this is
> the SLICKEST way of doing what you want that I can imagine. I
> suggest you forget PowerPoles and anything else and go with the
> mini-jack on a PCB.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>

>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

Fernando Quinones N2FQ

# 44. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 18:16:27 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 41  Message: 44

I vote all bugs - and if the vote doesn't win, I recommend making another group! I had no idea this group only supported Vibroplex. It is a good company, but there are other bugs out there which are as good if not better.

I don't like the idea of just "Vibroplex" bugs one bit. I had no idea!
The name of the group is "CW Bugs" - not "Vibroplex", isn't it?

73
David Ring, N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 11:21 AM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Purpose

I vote all bugs. There are plenty of bugs out there besides Vibroplex and I think plenty of ideas to share between us.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Earl Needham
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 11:00 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Purpose

In our charter, we mention the following:
>>This group has been created specifically for licensed ham radio
>>operators and telegraph key collectors, owners of the Vibroplex brand.
>>If you are a CW enthusiast, please come and join in this group to
>>discuss, trade key parts (at your own risk) and exchange on the subject.
>>Only Vibroplex equipment, and/or morse (international or
>>continental) related messages will be accepted.
>>The administration of this group has no interest in the Vibroplex
>>Company Inc. or any of it's affiliates.

I'm wondering if it might be OK to open the list up to ALL bugs --
but I'm not going to do this on my own, I want approval from the membership for this. If the membership says "no", then we'll keep it the same.

Any thoughts on this?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

Yahoo! Groups Links

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.428 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006
3:15 PM

# 45. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 18:46:57 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 45

At 06:50 PM 10/28/2006, Earl Needham wrote:
>\At 07:43 PM 10/28/2006, Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD wrote:
> >If someone does this, take a picture and post it. I'm having a hard time
> >seeing it in my head.
>
>You can just barely tell it in the top picture at
><http://www.kt5x.com/gallery.asp?keytype=2>http://www.kt5x.com/gallery.asp?keytype=2

KT5X has just sent me a couple of better pictures and
allowed me to forward them to the group.

Earl
<file://c:\eudora%20pro\attach\jack0001.JPG>
[]
<file://c:\eudora%20pro\attach\jack0001.JPG>
jack0001.JPG

<file://c:\eudora%20pro\attach\jack0002.JPG>
[]
<file://c:\eudora%20pro\attach\jack0002.JPG>
jack0002.JPG

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 46. RE: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 18:47:19 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
Topic: 41  Message: 46

Howdy David:

This group started because the Vibroplex group became dormant. The original idea (not speaking for the owner) was to provide an alternative for that particular group. Opening this group up to all bug users is a natural step, just not one taken yet.

I'm pretty certain the consensus will be for all bugs.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of David J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 1:16 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

I vote all bugs - and if the vote doesn't win, I recommend making another group! I had no idea this group only supported Vibroplex. It is a good company, but there are other bugs out there which are as good if not better.

I don't like the idea of just "Vibroplex" bugs one bit. I had no idea!
The name of the group is "CW Bugs" - not "Vibroplex", isn't it?

73
David Ring, N1EA

# 47. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 18:49:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 41  Message: 47

At 11:16 AM 10/29/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>I vote all bugs - and if the vote doesn't win, I recommend making another
>group! I had no idea this group only supported Vibroplex. It is a good
>company, but there are other bugs out there which are as good if not better.
>
>I don't like the idea of just "Vibroplex" bugs one bit. I had no idea!
>The name of the group is "CW Bugs" - not "Vibroplex", isn't it?

When I first started this list, I used the old Vibroplex
list as a "template" if you will. If we get a few more "yea" votes,
we'll go ahead and change the charter.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 48. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 18:55:00 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 48

At 11:46 AM 10/29/2006, I wrote:
><snip>
>KT5X has just sent me a couple of better pictures and
>allowed me to forward them to the group.
>
>Earl

Well that didn't work so well -- lemme try again --
Emacs!

Emacs!

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 49. RE: [cw_bugs] Greetings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 19:03:45 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 6  Message: 49

At 11:55 AM 10/29/2006, I wrote:
>At 11:46 AM 10/29/2006, I wrote:
> ><snip>
> >KT5X has just sent me a couple of better pictures and
> >allowed me to forward them to the group.
> >
> >Earl
>
>Well that didn't work so well -- lemme try again --

Well DUH... No attachments allowed! So these photos are now
in the photo section of the group page, under the title "Jack for
binding posts".

E.

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 50. Re: Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 19:10:14 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 41  Message: 50

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> When I first started this list, I used the old Vibroplex
> list as a "template" if you will. If we get a few more "yea" votes,
> we'll go ahead and change the charter.
>
> Earl

I voye "yea" then, also. I own just a few bugs; but a couple are not
Vibroplex - and I like 'em all!

73 de Larry W2LJ

## 51. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 20:06:59 UTC
From: kh6key@aol.com
Topic: 41  Message: 51

I vote all bugs too!!

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 52. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 20:26:58 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 41  Message: 52

All bugs!
Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 53. Re: Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 20:49:56 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 41  Message: 53

All bugs. After all, you see what happened to the old Vibroplex list. It died. Perhaps with a little broader inclusion - this list will fair better.

# 54. Re: Looking for...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 20:54:10 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 25  Message: 54

None of our ops left their bugs at work. Too much chance that someone might "need" to use it. Or, decide to "play" with it as a joke or..... Even back in the good old days, not everyone was so honest and wonderful.

The single draw back of using the bug inside of the case was no speed adjustment was available. They sure were quiet though.

However, on those circuits it didn't matter much. They ran 25 - 30 wpm all day every day.

# 55. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 20:54:20 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 41  Message: 55

I would tag along with David. While I enjoy and use my Blue Racer for most of my CW activity, I still appreciate my "Deluxe Model" Mac Key and it's cousin ( the TAC bug). Learning about the various types and manufacturers is what helps me to enjoy the hobby.

73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David J. Ring, Jr.<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 10:16 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

I vote all bugs - and if the vote doesn't win, I recommend making another group! I had no idea this group only supported Vibroplex. It is a good company, but there are other bugs out there which are as good if not better.

I don't like the idea of just "Vibroplex" bugs one bit. I had no idea! The name of the group is "CW Bugs" - not "Vibroplex", isn't it?

73
David Ring, N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 56. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-29 21:40:13 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 41  Message: 56

Oh, I didn't know that - it seems much more reasonable now!

Let's get it changed to "all bugs" and bug related subjects.

It just seems to make sense!

73
David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 1:47 PM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Howdy David:

This group started because the Vibroplex group became dormant. The original idea (not speaking for the owner) was to provide an alternative for that particular group. Opening this group up to all bug users is a natural step, just not one taken yet.

I'm pretty certain the consensus will be for all bugs.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of David J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2006 1:16 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

I vote all bugs - and if the vote doesn't win, I recommend making another group! I had no idea this group only supported Vibroplex. It is a good company, but there are other bugs out there which are as good if not better.

I don't like the idea of just "Vibroplex" bugs one bit. I had no idea!
The name of the group is "CW Bugs" - not "Vibroplex", isn't it?

73
David Ring, N1EA

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.428 / Virus Database: 268.13.17/505 - Release Date: 10/27/2006

3:15 PM

# 57. Re: Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-30 15:13:02 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 41  Message: 57

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> In our charter, we mention the following:
> >>This group has been created specifically for licensed ham radio
> >>operators and telegraph key collectors, owners of the Vibroplex
brand.
> >>If you are a CW enthusiast, please come and join in this group
to
> >>discuss, trade key parts (at your own risk) and exchange on the
subject.
> >>Only Vibroplex equipment, and/or morse (international or
> >>continental) related messages will be accepted.
> >>The administration of this group has no interest in the
Vibroplex
> >>Company Inc. or any of it's affiliates.
>
> I'm wondering if it might be OK to open the list up to
ALL
> bugs -- but I'm not going to do this on my own, I want approval
from
> the membership for this. If the membership says "no", then we'll
> keep it the same.
>
> Any thoughts on this?
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>

Earl,

My vote is for all bugs. Makes things more interesting.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 58. Newbie to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-31 20:17:18 UTC
From: w4foa
Topic: 58  Message: 58

Did not know such a group existed until I was invited to join by Earl, KD5XB. I already see some familiar "faces" !! Guess you might say I "cut my teeth" on a bug when at age 14 I bought my first bug, an EF Johnson Speed-X Model 114. It took most of my combined 25 cents a week allowance, peach-picking, and grass-mowing savings but I have to admit that I get more enjoyment than money can buy from my Speed-X, everytime I use it. Look forward to getting to know the gang better.

Thanks Earl for the invite.

Kind Regards,
Tony, W4FOA
Chickamauga, GA

PS: I also enjoy my Bunnell sideswiper which I use when I hear other "cooties"

# 59. Re: [skcc] Are You Looking For A Bug? (SOLD)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-10-31 20:32:42 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 59  Message: 59

Thanks for the numerous inquiries...the "Macbug" has been sold. I will be selling others from my collection over the coming months.
73
Tony, W4FOA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 60. Fw: [skcc] Are You Looking For A Bug?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-01 18:07:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 60  Message: 60

At 05:07 AM 10/31/2006, w4foa ( w4foa@... ) wrote:
>I am selling my McElroy "Telegraph Aparatus Co" bug, Model CP-510.
>This is the model commonly referred to as the "Hole-in-the-Wall bug"
>due to its mechanical design feature. This is the model that shows on
>the label "Telegraph Aparatus Co. Not Inc."
>
>This bug is completely original, has a couple of scuffs here and there
>but is fully operational and quite smooth. It is very heavy and will
>endure "heavy swatting" - if that is your style. It has a black
>crinkle finished base with chrome movement pieces.
>
>These bugs are not "rare" but are very collectable and a pleasure to
>use. Offered here on SKCC first.
>
>Price is $90, shipped USPO Priority/Insured to CONUS only.
>USPO Money Order preferred.
>Thanks
>Tony, W4FOA
>SKCC 0641

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 61. Re: [cw_bugs] Purpose

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-01 18:29:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 41  Message: 61

Having received no objections, and several approval votes,
and nothing at all on the subject for two days, I'll go in and change
the list description to remove the restriction to Vibroplex only.

In English, that means any and all bugs are welcome subjects
here! <G>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 62. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: [skcc] Are You Looking For A Bug?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-01 18:27:22 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 60  Message: 62

At 11:07 AM 11/1/2006, Earl Needham wrote:
>At 05:07 AM 10/31/2006, w4foa (
><mailto:w4foa%40comcast.net>w4foa@... ) wrote:
> >I am selling my McElroy "Telegraph Aparatus Co" bug, Model CP-510.

Oops, guess I'm just a little late -- sorry everybody.

Welcome, Tony -- I'm sure we're all glad to see you.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 63. McElroy marblite

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-03 15:35:59 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 63  Message: 63

I present this as a service to the list members. I have no connection to the seller, nor do I actually know him, only of him. I did sell him a key once and the transaction went smoothly.

Dennis has two McElroy deluxe marblite finish bugs for sale, one with label and one without. Pictures he sent me of them looked pretty good. If you have any interest, please do not contact me. Contact him directly < kt5d@... >

73, Fred kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 64. XF4DL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-03 16:17:14 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 64  Message: 64

Hey, this CW stuff is kinda fun! It's allowed me to make a
couple of DX contacts with XF4DL that I probably couldn't have done
on SSB. Used the bug for both, last night on 40 and this morning on
15. I'm pretty happy right now!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 65. new here

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-03 22:19:09 UTC
From: gerald (jerry) steck--k5psh
Topic: 65  Message: 65

just found this group--i am jerry, K5PSH-- been k5psh since august of 1958--was kn5psh before that--work exclusively cw, and use an old lightning bug, circa 1965, 99% of the time--have a japanese bug that i acquired in 1968 while stationed at chitose, japan, (island of hokkaido)--a rough bug--noisy--
i also play with a j-38, and a british straigt key when the mood strikes me--
did four years as CW intercept op in asia, 1966-70--

work all HF bands, but really like 40 and 80M--see ya on the air--
73---jerry

# 66. Blue Racer...anyone have a junker?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-03 23:57:58 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 66  Message: 66

I know this is a longshot but wonder if there is anyone out there that might have a junker Vibroplex Blue Racer they are parting out? I'm trying to restore a badly abused Blue Racer and need the Dot Contact Spring and both pieces of the "lock mechanism". Or I would be interested in buying a junker that has at least these pieces.
Thanks for any help.
Tony, W4FOA
Chickamauga, GA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 67. Re: Blue Racer...anyone have a junker?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-13 06:53:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 66  Message: 67

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tony Martin W4FOA" <w4foa@...> wrote:
>
> I know this is a longshot but wonder if there is anyone out there
that might have a junker Vibroplex Blue Racer they are parting out?
I'm trying to restore a badly abused Blue Racer and need the Dot
Contact Spring and both pieces of the "lock mechanism". Or I would be
interested in buying a junker that has at least these pieces.
> Thanks for any help.
> Tony, W4FOA
> Chickamauga, GA

Tony, every once in a while you see something like this go through
eBay. You might keep watcing there.

Earl

# 68. I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-14 13:59:54 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 68

I won eBay item number 320045595400 seen at
http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045595400

It might not be pretty, but it'll be fun...
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 69. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-14 14:59:56 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 68  Message: 69

Hi, Earl -

You got a nice buy on a nice key. Enjoy!

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 70. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-14 19:44:15 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 68  Message: 70

Earl,
If you need a replica Lionel tag for it I've got a few sitting around.
73
Tim W3ZVT

Earl Needham wrote:

>
> I won eBay item number 320045595400 seen at
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045595400
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045595400>
>
> It might not be pretty, but it'll be fun...
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 71. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 04:48:18 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 71

At 07:59 AM 11/14/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:

>Hi, Earl -
>
>You got a nice buy on a nice key. Enjoy!

Thanks, Rich. I also won
http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045594362 at
the same time, but not quite such a good buy on it!

At 12:44 PM 11/14/2006, Tim Soxman wrote:

>Earl,
>If you need a replica Lionel tag for it I've got a few sitting around.
>73
>Tim W3ZVT

Hey, that's an interesting idea, Tim --

I'm quite ignorant here. What do the labels even look
like? Are they paper, decals, tin, or what? Once I get the bug
here, I might need to make a decision on either refinishing it or
else just USE it and let it remain as it is. Hope it gets here quick! :-)

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 72. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 12:40:25 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 68  Message: 72

Hi, Earl -

From the pictures on eBay, it looks to me like someone already did some re-furbishing, judging from the shiny paint on the base (or is that a variant of the J-36?). It looks like it is in good shape just to use as is. BTW, the label for that version originally was a long strip of plastic (from the early days of plastic, so it deteriorated rapidly). The photos of your bug show the faint outline of a former label along the left side of the base.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: Earl Needham <needhame1@...>
>Sent: Nov 14, 2006 11:48 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...
>
>At 07:59 AM 11/14/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>
>>Hi, Earl -
>>
>>You got a nice buy on a nice key. Enjoy!
>
> Thanks, Rich. I also won
>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045594362 at
>the same time, but not quite such a good buy on it!
>
>At 12:44 PM 11/14/2006, Tim Soxman wrote:
>
>>Earl,
>>If you need a replica Lionel tag for it I've got a few sitting around.
>>73
>>Tim W3ZVT
>
> Hey, that's an interesting idea, Tim --
>
> I'm quite ignorant here. What do the labels even look
>like? Are they paper, decals, tin, or what? Once I get the bug
>here, I might need to make a decision on either refinishing it or
>else just USE it and let it remain as it is. Hope it gets here quick! :-)
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
>KD5XB
>Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>

# 73. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 13:32:11 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 73

At 05:40 AM 11/15/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>Hi, Earl -
>
> From the pictures on eBay, it looks to me like someone already did
> some re-furbishing, judging from the shiny paint on the base (or is
> that a variant of the J-36?). It looks like it is in good shape
> just to use as is. BTW, the label for that version originally was a
> long strip of plastic (from the early days of plastic, so it
> deteriorated rapidly). The photos of your bug show the faint
> outline of a former label along the left side of the base.

Now that you pointed it out, I can see it.

If it turns out that it's apiece of junk, I might take it
apart and have the base painted candy apple red down at the body
shop... Ooh, what a bad dream THAT was!

Seriously, I got it cheap enough that I might let our local
ARC use it down at the clubhouse.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 74. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 14:58:30 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 68  Message: 74

Earl,
Or you could have the base chromed. I bought an old chromed key and it was peeling and rusty. I took it apart and took the base to a local plating shop. For $30 they rechromed the base, the damper assembly and the trunion. If you would like to see the results, go to www.kevin@... and look in the "Gallery" under Radios and Equipment. Its titled, simply K4OSO. There are two Blue Racers, my "rechrome" and my gray one.
73, Milt k4oso
In a message dated 11/15/2006 8:42:32 AM Eastern Standard Time, needhame1@... writes:

> If it turns out that it's apiece of junk, I might take it
> apart and have the base painted candy apple red down at the body
> shop... Ooh, what a bad dream THAT was!
>
> Seriously, I got it cheap enough that I might let our local
> ARC use it down at the clubhouse.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 75. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 15:32:17 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 68  Message: 75

Earl,
Sorry about that. I gave you the email address
The link is http://k4vd.net
Milt

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 76. Re: I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 15:47:48 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 68  Message: 76

Earl,

I was lucky enough to pick up a J-36 earlier this year on eBay also. Another winter restoration project!

Does anyone on the list have a scan of the serial number tag? I'd like to make up a replica and put it on my restored J-36 once I get it done. Of course, the serial number area qould be left balnk; but I think it would look cool nonetheless.

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 77. Re: I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 19:02:26 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 68  Message: 77

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry" <Makos327@...> wrote:
>
> Earl,
>
> I was lucky enough to pick up a J-36 earlier this year on eBay also.
> Another winter restoration project!
>
> Does anyone on the list have a scan of the serial number tag? I'd
> like to make up a replica and put it on my restored J-36 once I get it
> done. Of course, the serial number area qould be left balnk; but I
> think it would look cool nonetheless.
>
> 73 de Larry W2LJ
>

Larry and the group,

I have a .bmp file of the Lionel J-36 label from W1TP's site but the photos section won't let me upload it. It must not support .bmp files.

I will email it to you and if anyone else wants a copy let me know.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 78. Re: I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 19:09:10 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 68  Message: 78

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry" <Makos327@...> wrote:

> Does anyone on the list have a scan of the serial number tag? I'd
> like to make up a replica and put it on my restored J-36 once I get it
> done. Of course, the serial number area qould be left balnk; but I
> think it would look cool nonetheless.
>
> 73 de Larry W2LJ
>

Larry and the group,

I guess I can't find your email address.
Send me an email at nn8b.oh@... and I'll reply with the
label .bmp file.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 79. Re: I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 21:34:33 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 68  Message: 79

A copy of the label for the Lionel J-36 has been uploaded to the
photo section at http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos

73

David N1EA

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Don" <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
> Larry and the group,
>
> I have a .bmp file of the Lionel J-36 label from W1TP's site but
the
> photos section won't let me upload it. It must not support .bmp
files.
>
> I will email it to you and if anyone else wants a copy let me know.
>
> 73,
>
> Don, NN8B
>

# 80. Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 21:35:39 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 80  Message: 80

A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on the web.

http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos

73

David N1EA

# 81. Re: Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-15 22:10:44 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 80  Message: 81

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area
on
> the web.
>
> http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

Thanks David.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 82. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 03:15:50 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 80  Message: 82

Problem: The photo album drastically reduces the size of the photo - it
won't be suitable.

Please go to the one I uploaded to the "files" section - that is full sized.

73

David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2006 4:35 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
the web.

http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos

73

David N1EA

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.5/534 - Release Date: 11/14/2006
3:58 PM

# 83. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 05:18:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 83

My two gadgets --
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045595400>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045595400
and
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045594362>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=320045594362
-- arrived today.

This is the first time I've actually looked at a straight
key since I was a kid in the '60's -- and it is VERY nice looking.

The bug is nice, too -- but it's incredibly fast, a lot
faster than I can copy! I guess it gives me a reason to practice,
hi! I'm headed to bed now, but you might find me on the bands Friday
or Saturday.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 84. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 06:55:10 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 68  Message: 84

Earl,

The Bunnell Triumph key has a "bug lip" on the left hand side of the base where you can use a "cord and wedge" to connect your Lionel J-36 bug.

Bugs were designed to be used at the upper ranges of hand key speed - 20 wpm and above.

Most people find it very uncomfortable and quite difficult to send with a bug below 20 wpm - but those speeds are easy enough to send with using a straight key.

A bug is something that "sounds" best when adjusted for a set speed. The spacings that are optimum for different speeds change, also the weighting (dot adjustment) changes as the dots have to be lighter as speed increases.

73

David Ring, N1EA

=30=

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham

This is the first time I've actually looked at a straight key since I was a kid in the '60's -- and it is VERY nice looking.

The bug is nice, too -- but it's incredibly fast, a lot faster than I can copy! I guess it gives me a reason to practice, hi! I'm headed to bed now, but you might find me on the bands Friday or Saturday.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

# 85. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 13:29:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 85

At 11:55 PM 11/15/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>The Bunnell Triumph key has a "bug lip" on the left hand side of the base
>where you can use a "cord and wedge" to connect your Lionel J-36 bug.

Yes, that's the main reason I wanted a straight key. I've
never used one much, and I'm pretty uncomfortable trying. I
originally learned the code on a Ten-Tec KR-50.

>Bugs were designed to be used at the upper ranges of hand key speed - 20 wpm
>and above.

Yep, but I'm just not there yet. We'll see what happens in
the next months.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 86. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 13:53:18 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 86

At 05:40 AM 11/15/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>Hi, Earl -
>
> From the pictures on eBay, it looks to me like someone already did
> some re-furbishing, judging from the shiny paint on the base (or is
> that a variant of the J-36?). It looks like it is in good shape
> just to use as is. BTW, the label for that version originally was a
> long strip of plastic (from the early days of plastic, so it
> deteriorated rapidly). The photos of your bug show the faint
> outline of a former label along the left side of the base.

After receiving the bug and looking it over, it appears that
somebody took it apart and used a can of black spray paint on the
base. I didn't find any overspray on the chrome pieces, but I only
spent 5 seconds or so looking.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 87. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-16 16:37:28 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 68  Message: 87

The seller of both the bug and straight key buys keys on eBay under a different names, paints and wirebrushes them and then resells them using the azroadrunners name.

Sometimes the keys he sells are rare, and the people who collect keys have been upset at the damage caused by wire brushing and repainting.

But it seems "shiney keys" sell best.

73

David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham

After receiving the bug and looking it over, it appears that somebody took it apart and used a can of black spray paint on the base. I didn't find any overspray on the chrome pieces, but I only spent 5 seconds or so looking.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 88. WTB: Vibroplex Binding Post Nut

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 00:29:52 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 88  Message: 88

Hello.

Need about four Binding Post Nut, this is the flat type, not the half dome.

The Vibroplex pdf shows them as dome.

Or a pointer to where I might find some.

tnx.

Fernando Quinones N2FQ

# 89. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vibroplex Binding Post Nut

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 01:06:38 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 88  Message: 89

Fernando,

If you mean the kind that is flat on top and has knurling on it, you may find them at a hardware store. They usually have a section with brass stuff in small drawers. I found many different sizes here at an Ace hardware with a great section for nuts and bolts and brass stuff.

Good luck.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 11/16/06, Fernando Quinones <n2fq@...> wrote:
>
> Hello.
>
> Need about four Binding Post Nut, this is the flat type, not the half
> dome.
>
> The Vibroplex pdf shows them as dome.
>
> Or a pointer to where I might find some.
>
> tnx.
>
> Fernando Quinones N2FQ
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 90. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 07:15:16 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 90

At 09:37 AM 11/16/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>The seller of both the bug and straight key buys keys on eBay under a
>different names, paints and wirebrushes them and then resells them using the
>azroadrunners name.

Yep, the Bunnell straight key I just got has quite a bit of
the "Bunnell" worn down smooth.

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 91. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 16:32:04 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 80  Message: 91

At 02:35 PM 11/15/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:

>A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
>the web.
>
><http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos>http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
/photos

So what would this label be made from? Tin or steel or some
other metal, or something else entirely?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 92. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 18:48:53 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 80  Message: 92

Earl,
It was not too long ago that someone was making up "replacement" J36 labels.
I don't remember where I saw his ads, but it might be worth doing a little "snooping" around....that is unless you are just wanting to DIY.
Gl
Tony

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 11:32 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

At 02:35 PM 11/15/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:

>A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
>the web.
>
><http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos>http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos

So what would this label be made from? Tin or steel or some
other metal, or something else entirely?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 93. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 20:34:35 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 80  Message: 93

At 09:32 AM 11/17/2006, I wrote:
>So what would this label be made from? Tin or steel or some
>other metal, or something else entirely?

Oops, I apologize -- I found the answer in an earlier email --

At 05:40 AM 11/15/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>BTW, the label for that version originally was a long strip of
>plastic (from the early days of plastic, so it deteriorated rapidly).

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 94. Re: [cw_bugs] I did it again...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 20:35:32 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 68  Message: 94

At 12:44 PM 11/14/2006, Tim Soxman wrote:
>Earl,
>If you need a replica Lionel tag for it I've got a few sitting around.
>73
>Tim W3ZVT

Tim, I'll take you up on that -- how shall we do this?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 95. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vibroplex Binding Post Nut

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-17 20:58:12 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 88  Message: 95

Hello Don.

Thanks for the tip, found some at Ace (8/32) in a small

drawer in brass.

take care.

On Nov 16, 2006, at 5:06 PM, Donald Kemp wrote:

> Fernando,
>
> If you mean the kind that is flat on top and has knurling on it,
> you may
> find them at a hardware store. They usually have a section with
> brass stuff
> in small drawers. I found many different sizes here at an Ace
> hardware with
> a great section for nuts and bolts and brass stuff.
>
> Good luck.
>
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>
>

Fernando Quinones N2FQ

# 96. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-18 00:48:06 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 80  Message: 96

I believe the original labels were a "sticker" paper.

73
David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2006 11:32 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel J-36 Label

At 02:35 PM 11/15/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:

>A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
>the web.
>
><http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos>http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
/photos

So what would this label be made from? Tin or steel or some
other metal, or something else entirely?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.6/536 - Release Date: 11/16/2006
3:51 PM

# 97. Happy Thanksgiving! ! ! !

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-22 16:28:14 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 97  Message: 97

Friends:

Best wishes to all for a very Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope everyone enjoys the day in a special way. For me the ideal Thanksgiving will be spent with good friends and family sharing a magnificent meal, warm and comforting fellowship, and totally relaxing day.

The day will be topped off with a few hours at the rig sharing the joy of CW with my peers in this most gregarious avocation.

73 all!

Frank N. Haas KB4T
CW_Bugs Yahoogroup Moderator Team

# 98. RE: [cw_bugs] Happy Thanksgiving! ! ! !

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-22 16:37:42 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
Topic: 97  Message: 98

Seconded... Happy Thanksgiving!!!!

With the antenna down, I'm working on a new website. It's only half done but I'm having fun with it. It has a much cleaner look than my current (ugly) site.

If my tennis ball launcher happens to arrive today, I may be able to get back on the air.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Frank N. Haas
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2006 11:28 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Happy Thanksgiving! ! ! !

Friends:

Best wishes to all for a very Happy Thanksgiving!

I hope everyone enjoys the day in a special way. For me the ideal Thanksgiving will be spent with good friends and family sharing a magnificent meal, warm and comforting fellowship, and totally relaxing day.

The day will be topped off with a few hours at the rig sharing the joy of CW with my peers in this most gregarious avocation.

73 all!

Frank N. Haas KB4T
CW_Bugs Yahoogroup Moderator Team

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.14.13/546 - Release Date: 11/22/2006 9:01 AM

# 99. Re: [cw_bugs] Happy Thanksgiving! ! ! !

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-23 00:15:57 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 97  Message: 99

At 09:28 AM 11/22/2006, you wrote:
>Friends:
>
>Best wishes to all for a very Happy Thanksgiving!
>
>I hope everyone enjoys the day in a special way. For me the ideal
>Thanksgiving will be spent with good friends and family sharing a
>magnificent meal, warm and comforting fellowship, and totally relaxing
>day.
>
>The day will be topped off with a few hours at the rig sharing the joy
>of CW with my peers in this most gregarious avocation.
>
>73 all!

I'm working tomorrow, but at least it's a little shorter
than most days. Tonight, I'm trying to work DX so you may hear me if
you listen in the pileups.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 100. How to Clean Vibroplex Equipment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-28 14:16:14 UTC
From: Jon Maguire
Topic: 100  Message: 100

I have 2 Vibroplex keys that belonged to my Dad, the orignal W1MNK. I've haven't really paid much attention too them, but they have collected dust in the shack. One is a standard bug s/n 210xxx with gray base. The other is a standard keyer, s/n 373xxx with tan base.

I've dusted them, but they still are quite dusty. Also, the shiny metal on the bug is a little dull, with some discoloration. My questions are
1. How do I thoroughly remove the dust?
2. How do I clean the shiny metal?
3. After cleaning, I'd like to adjust them. Are there directions on the Web?

73... Jon W1MNK

PS Previously posted on SolidCpyCW Yahoo group

# 101. Re: [cw_bugs] How to Clean Vibroplex Equipment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-28 20:01:44 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 100  Message: 101

On Tue, 28 Nov 2006 09:16:14 -0500, Jon Maguire <w1mnk@...>
wrote:

> I have 2 Vibroplex keys that belonged to my Dad, the orignal W1MNK.
> I've haven't really paid much attention too them, but they have
> collected dust in the shack. One is a standard bug s/n 210xxx with
> gray base. The other is a standard keyer, s/n 373xxx with tan base.
> I've dusted them, but they still are quite dusty. Also, the shiny
> metal on the bug is a little dull, with some discoloration. My
> questions are
> 1. How do I thoroughly remove the dust?
> 2. How do I clean the shiny metal?
> 3. After cleaning, I'd like to adjust them. Are there directions on
> the Web?
> 73... Jon W1MNK

Hi Jon:

I can point you to the Vibroplex Bug Adjustments page. I used these instructions as a basis for setting up my bug but have since customized it with my own tweaks. You can find their PDF file by going to vibroplex.com, selecting the "Original" button and scrolling down to the bottom. There's a parts list and machine drawings there also.

My tweaks were primarily to adjust the sound of the dot so it wasn't too short. The closer I could make it sound like perfect machine generated code, the better I felt about it.

As for cleaning, the only thing I found on the Vibroplex site was to not use any products that contain bleach. Not much help there. Milt, K4OSO suggests using mineral oil. Not something I tried but he says the results are excellent. On the QRP-L list I see that NF0R suggests WD-40 in multiple passes to remove grime.

Being a Harley rider, cleaning chrome has become an artform for me. If the chrome is pitted or rusted through about the only thing you can do is either live with it (it shows character) or have it re-chromed. But if it is in good shape and just needs cleaning check out the products at Home Depot or even a Harley shop. I use the liquid type on a soft cloth but. Taking small pieces at a time I work it in in a circular motion replacing the cloth every time it starts getting dirty. It takes a very long time to clean chrome.

I would definitely keep the chrome cleaner away from painted parts, especially the base. If the cleaner gets in the grooves it might be difficult to remove it.

Hope this gives you some ideas.

--
73,
Kevin K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

# 102. cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-29 14:27:13 UTC
From: KT5X@CYBERMESA.COM
Topic: 102  Message: 102

First off, understand that WD40 is a solvent. It is useful to free rusted bolts, but it is not a good thing to be left on metal parts indefinitely.

Cleaning the base. you will have good luck with soap, for example, dawn dish soap.

Polishing the chromed finished parts. The best polish on the planet is MAAS metal polish. Do a web search. After hand polishing, leave FLITZ on the surface for a lasting shine.

Adjusting a bug. the old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a signficant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and avoiding the dreaded split dit. All adjustments become less critical and tend to maintain when sizable gaps are used.

However, for higher speeds and longer operating periods, smaller gaps are less tiring and permit higher speeds. if the bug isn't going to moved about you can find good function at fairly narrow gaps. But start with an accurate damper stop setting where the pendulum touches the damper wheel just enough to do its job.

spend time adjusting the trunion properly. If you use large gaps for the other adjustments, the trunion becomes less significant. But if you set the gaps small and precisely, then the trunion needs to have no play in it. Adjust the trunion so it doesn't bind (too tight) but so that you feel as little side to side play as possible (not too loose).

When using a bug, many operators fail to hear themselves. they hear what they think they are sending, even though it is unintelligible on the other end. What makes it unintelligible?

the spoacing within a character should be as short as a dit. Most people fail to achieve that. the spacing between letters should be many times longer than the spacing within a character. Make certain the letters are distinctly spaced, make certain dashes are longer than dits, and you will be at least readible, even if your dashes are not evenly created and exactly three times as long as a dit.

Dit length. Dit length can NOT be done listening to it on your monitor.

Dits should be equal in length to the space between them. In practice you can easily come pretty close to this. Push the lever over as if to make dits then dampen the lever with your finger to make it still. The dit contact adjustment screw should be adjusted to where it just barely makes contact. anything less is under 50% weighting, anything more is over 50%, but set it quite precisely.

The OTHER way to adjust the dit contact is with your transmitter meter. (Do this adjustment into a dummy load, not on the air). Hold down the key and note the meter reading. Now make dits and adjust the contact screw for half power reading. It will be 50% weighting.

Have fun!

73, Fred - kt5x
since 1958

See my collection at WWW.KT5X.COM

# 103. my newest

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-29 14:48:21 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 103  Message: 103

My bug collection I intentionally keep small. I have limited myself to ten, so periodically I must let something go. I recently added two and traded one so I am at my limit for now. I am moving my collection in the direction of rare, and different, so that the small collection presents the greatest variety within it that I can...

Standard Radio Co bug: this bug has been recognized by collectors for a long time, but no one seemed to know when or why it was made. About half of those in collections have labels, the other half not, and I have found about 15, and have pictures of all of them. I see less than one each year show up on eBay, so this is an indeed scarce bug.

I bought one that was so rusted up that no one wanted it. they were right. It took a LOT of work to restore. The most important thing about the one I bought is that it came with its orginal box. Printing on the box resolved most questions. It said, "by special order for the Army Air corps, 2-1-43."

so these robust bugs with the split posts were not made for commercial sale, but for use on planes during WW II. The labeled bugs were let out to civilians while the unlabeled ones were those provided to the military. Only a small percentage of those survive and no one knows how many were made. The split post would maintain an adjustment even in the vibrating environment of a B-24, while the robust structure would survive a trip to the floor and keep on sending.

they came in several base finishes. Most commonly, black, and dark army green, they are also found in nickel, leatherette (crinkle), and dark maroon.

See my web site for before and after restoration photos.

BUZZA No. 100 bug. This bug was made in Australia. the earliest ones carried a Levinson decal (1920's are are extremely rare. Scarce are those with a brass Buzza label from the 30's and 40's.

they came in the more frequently seen single trunion version, and the very scarce dual trunion version like mine. I haven't got a picture of it on my website yet, so here it is:

And the last new addition...

Simplex-Auto bug. Made from the 1920's into the early 50's, this key is very scarce today. Nearly all were used by the Australian Post Master General, and when the PMG was no longer sending Morse code telegrams, they were discarded. that is why so few exist even though some 6,000 were made.

It is a right angle key which is interesting in itself, but what makes it even more interesting is the mechansim. Unlike the Vibroplex which is at rest when sitting there, this key uses a release mechanism like the early Mecograph by Coffe. At rest the mainspring is loaded, and moving the lever releases the energy causing the dits.

I traded a 1914 vibroplex for it to an Australian collector, a fun enterprise in itself.

It slows down by FAR the most of ANY bug. It will slow to perhaps 12 wpm. I think I need to work a VK with it!

Best to all,

73, Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 104. Finding Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-29 15:59:27 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 104  Message: 104

When I retired in Jan this year, I began collecting telegraph keys. At the time I wanted to get straight keys made by J. H. Bunnell. Somehow I got a few bugs mixed in and now have 8 of them of various kinds.

3 Vibroplex (1 1921 Original, 1 1941 Lightning, 1 1953 Champion)
2 Lionel J-36
2 Cedar Rapids
1 J. H. Bunnell J-36

This summer I visited a few railroad museums here in Ohio. One was in Conneaut and they had a very nice display of telegraph equipment that had been donated. They has 3 bugs; 1 Vibroplex Zephyr, 1 pre-1920 Original and 1 Standard Radio Co.

Fred's previous posting brought back those memories. When I first saw the Standard Radio bug I thought it was a Vibroplex. But it was too fat. The hardware is very heavy duty. It wasn't till several days later that I found out what it was after searching the web for information.
This one does not have a nameplate on it, nor is there a serial number anywhere on it.

I will post some pictures of it for all to see what they look like.

I am still learning to use the bug. So far I find the Cedar Rapids to be very smooth and easy to slow down. The old 1921 Original is pretty rough to use for me. I just can't get it adjusted right. The Champion and Lightning are nice and smooth, nice feel. The Bunnell J-36 is super fast. If you want a fast bug I would sugggest this one. I have not tried the Lionel yet.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 105. Re: [cw_bugs] Finding Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-29 16:22:00 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 104  Message: 105

Don,
If you have a Lionel J-36 it's probably lacking the plastic tag. If it is I can send you a laminated replica tag to put on it.
73
Tim W3ZVT, ex K4LKC, CN8GV, F7CY

Don wrote:

> When I retired in Jan this year, I began collecting telegraph keys.
> At the time I wanted to get straight keys made by J. H. Bunnell.
> Somehow I got a few bugs mixed in and now have 8 of them of various
> kinds.
>
> 3 Vibroplex (1 1921 Original, 1 1941 Lightning, 1 1953 Champion)
> 2 Lionel J-36
> 2 Cedar Rapids
> 1 J. H. Bunnell J-36
>
> This summer I visited a few railroad museums here in Ohio. One was in
> Conneaut and they had a very nice display of telegraph equipment that
> had been donated. They has 3 bugs; 1 Vibroplex Zephyr, 1 pre-1920
> Original and 1 Standard Radio Co.
>
> Fred's previous posting brought back those memories. When I first saw
> the Standard Radio bug I thought it was a Vibroplex. But it was too
> fat. The hardware is very heavy duty. It wasn't till several days
> later that I found out what it was after searching the web for
> information.
> This one does not have a nameplate on it, nor is there a serial
> number anywhere on it.
>
> I will post some pictures of it for all to see what they look like.
>
> I am still learning to use the bug. So far I find the Cedar Rapids to
> be very smooth and easy to slow down. The old 1921 Original is pretty
> rough to use for me. I just can't get it adjusted right. The Champion
> and Lightning are nice and smooth, nice feel. The Bunnell J-36 is
> super fast. If you want a fast bug I would sugggest this one. I have
> not tried the Lionel yet.
>
> 73,
>
> Don, NN8B
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 106. Re: [cw_bugs] my newest

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-29 16:58:39 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 103  Message: 106

Nice collection Fred!!
Tony, W4FOA

----- Original Message -----
From: KT5X
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2006 9:48 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] my newest

My bug collection I intentionally keep small. I have limited myself to ten, so periodically I must let something go. I recently added two and traded one so I am at my limit for now. I am moving my collection in the direction of rare, and different, so that the small collection presents the greatest variety within it that I can...

Standard Radio Co bug: this bug has been recognized by collectors for a long time, but no one seemed to know when or why it was made. About half of those in collections have labels, the other half not, and I have found about 15, and have pictures of all of them. I see less than one each year show up on eBay, so this is an indeed scarce bug.

I bought one that was so rusted up that no one wanted it. they were right. It took a LOT of work to restore. The most important thing about the one I bought is that it came with its orginal box. Printing on the box resolved most questions. It said, "by special order for the Army Air corps, 2-1-43."

so these robust bugs with the split posts were not made for commercial sale, but for use on planes during WW II. The labeled bugs were let out to civilians while the unlabeled ones were those provided to the military. Only a small percentage of those survive and no one knows how many were made. The split post would maintain an adjustment even in the vibrating environment of a B-24, while the robust structure would survive a trip to the floor and keep on sending.

they came in several base finishes. Most commonly, black, and dark army green, they are also found in nickel, leatherette (crinkle), and dark maroon.

See my web site for before and after restoration photos.

BUZZA No. 100 bug. This bug was made in Australia. the earliest ones carried a Levinson decal (1920's are are extremely rare. Scarce are those with a brass Buzza label from the 30's and 40's.

they came in the more frequently seen single trunion version, and the very scarce dual trunion version like mine. I haven't got a picture of it on my website yet, so here it is:

And the last new addition...

Simplex-Auto bug. Made from the 1920's into the early 50's, this key is very scarce today. Nearly all were used by the Australian Post Master General, and when the PMG was no longer sending Morse code telegrams, they were discarded. that is why so few exist even though

some 6,000 were made.

It is a right angle key which is interesting in itself, but what makes it even more interesting is the mechansim. Unlike the Vibroplex which is at rest when sitting there, this key uses a release mechanism like the early Mecograph by Coffe. At rest the mainspring is loaded, and moving the lever releases the energy causing the dits.

I traded a 1914 vibroplex for it to an Australian collector, a fun enterprise in itself.

It slows down by FAR the most of ANY bug. It will slow to perhaps 12 wpm. I think I need to work a VK with it!

Best to all,

73, Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 107. Additions to web site collections

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-30 12:28:13 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 107  Message: 107

I have added several new key collections to the list at:
http://www.radiotelegraphy.net/

Please keep the drool off the key boards.

# 108. Re: Finding Bugs - Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-30 20:00:43 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 108  Message: 108

Don,

When you revisit that museum where you saw a Standard Radio Co. bug, you may wish to give them information beginning with that it was made by Standard Radio which if it doesn't have a label, they almost for sure do not know. But secondly; you can tell them from the information on the box mine came in that it was a World War II vintage special order key made for the Army Air Corps for use in planes, probably specifically, bombers like the B-24.

When you post the picture of the one in the museum, please copy a picture to me directly. I get the digest form of this list, and all attachments are stripped. I can not view the attachments on the Yahoo site because I am not a Yahoo member (because I don't want to be).

A little more about the key... ALL of the keys with labels are serial numbered. NONE of the keys without are serial numbered. All labeled keys with serials have numbers between 1500 and 1600.

My theory: based upon statistical frequency it is unlikely more than 110 labeled keys with serial numbers were made. About 15% of those are already known in collections. the labeled ones did not go to the military and probably represent all of those which were let out to civilians. the lowest serial number ones ALL have the early vibroplex pinned dash levers, and Vibroplex screws and locknuts. I therefore believe that Standard Radio Company was a subset of Vibroplex created for this special order only and disbanded immediately after its completion. that is why no commercial endeavor was made and no ads have ever been found for this key.

some of the non-labeled keys match the low serial numbered ones with vibroplex parts, while the higher serial numbered keys have parts matching other non-labeled ones. therefore, the serial numbered keys were made randomly all during the production of the military order, not all at the beginning or all at the end. they must have been let out to a few people who knew the key builders and specially asked for one. I can tell just by looking at a non-labeled key whether it was early, mid or late in the production by how the parts match with serialed keys. Neat, eh? Useless, but neat ;-)

Based on that and mien being dated 2-1-43, I am certain the first ones were made in 1942. It is likely none were made beyond '44 or '45.

The unlabeled ones almost undoubtedly were those sent to the military. Why did the serials start at 1500? Probably because they expected to produce about 1500, or the order was for 1500 to the military. How many were actually made? Unknown of course, but again from statistical frequency, about one half of those that have surfaced have no label. My guess is that 1500 were not made, more likely only about half of that. Survival rate for the military keys is much less. Mostly I imagine the fly-boys cared not a whit about keys and most were discarded long ago.

Here is mine before restoration:

You can see why no one would want it. Smart. Restoration took a LOT of work and at least a little expertise. and after:

Bases were made in black Japanned, green, nickel, leatherette black, and dark maroon, in order of frequency found in collections today. Mine had been Army green, but I could not find a green lacquer at the auto store that did not have metallic flecks in it, so I chose the dark maroon, also a legitimate original color.

All those except the nickel base which were in good enough condition to see (not mine for example) have the gold pin-stripes... except for the red one from the Willer collection. I believe his red base is not original. he painted it, and did so poorly. It is not a baked enamel as is the other red one I saw in Gil's collection. In all cases the pin-striping done was TERRIBLE! Sloppy, uneven, unprofessional. I bet that was done by a kid. and I wonder, wonder, wonder, why such attention was paid to base finishes on a key going to the military? All I can think of is they had a kid doing it so the kid could feel like he or she was somehow helping in the war effort. Also, I bet they waited and waited for the arrival of some parts, slowing delivery, so had plenty of time for such while waiting.

all conjecture, but it is fun.

73 - Fred kt5x (W5YA/qrp)

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 109. Re: [cw_bugs] Finding Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-11-30 23:43:51 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 104  Message: 109

At 09:22 AM 11/29/2006, you wrote:

>Don,
>If you have a Lionel J-36 it's probably lacking the plastic tag. If it
>is I can send you a laminated replica tag to put on it.
>73
>Tim W3ZVT, ex K4LKC, CN8GV, F7CY

Tim, I'd sure like a label for my J-36. Shall I send you my
mailing address?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 110. Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-01 21:33:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 110  Message: 110

Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to figure
how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 111. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-01 22:43:56 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 110  Message: 111

Hi, Earl -

The formula that you are looking for is: WPM = (dits per second) x 2.4 This assumes a 1 to 3 dit-to-dah ratio and a "dit" space between elements.

This is a lot easier than sending PARIS repeatedly.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: Earl Needham <needhame1@...>
>Sent: Dec 1, 2006 4:33 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?
>
>
> Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
>second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to figure
>how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
>easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
>KD5XB
>Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>

# 112. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-01 23:31:39 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 110  Message: 112

Earl,

Let me try to figure this out.
If I send PARIS in one minute that's 1 WPM.
P = 2 dits and 2 dahs. 1 dah = 3 dits x 2 = 6 + 2 = 8 + 3 spaces between elements & + 1 space between character = 12 dits
A = 1 dit and 1 dah. Thats 1 + 3 + 1 element space + 1 character space = 6 dits
R = 2 dits and 1 dah. 5 = 2 element spaces + 1 character space = 8 dits
I = 2 dits + 1 element space + 1 character space = 4 dits
S = 3 dits + 2 element spaces = 5 dits.

Total dits = 12 + 6 + 8 + 4 + 5 = 35 dits in one minute or 60/35 = 1.7142857seconds/dit
Space between words = 1 dah = 3 dits.
20 WPM would be 60/(20 x 35) + (19 x 3) = 757. 60/757 = .07926 seconds/dit.
1/.07926 = 12.617 dits/second = 20 WPM.

Maybe.

I may be missing something in the spaces between words. Do I actually count them for the dit count?
If not it would be:
20 WPM = 60/(20 x 35) = .0857 sec/dit.
1/.0857 = 11.668 dits/sec = 20 WPM

Not too much difference.

So for any other WPM calculation (using the second formula) it would be:
X WPM = 60/(X x 35) = Y sec/dit
1/Y = Z dits/sec.

IE for 15 WPM.

15 WPM = 60/(15 x 35) = .1142857 sec/dit
1/.1142857 = 8.75 dits/sec.

Hopefully there's already a table somewhere that will let me know if I'm all wet.

It was fun anyway Earl.

73,

Don, NN8B
SKCC 36

On 12/1/06, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
> second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to figure
> how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
> easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 113. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 01:10:21 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 110  Message: 113

In a message dated 12/1/2006 6:44:49 PM Eastern Standard Time,
wb9lpu@... writes:

> Hi, Earl -
>
> The formula that you are looking for is: WPM = (dits per second) x 2.4 This
> assumes a 1 to 3 dit-to-dah ratio and a "dit" space between elements.
>
> This is a lot easier than sending PARIS repeatedly.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

Neither of these methods seem particularly easy. I use my keyer (CMOS4) to
"pace" the sender, be it myself or someone else. It seems to work pretty
well,..... without the math:-)
73, Milt k4oso

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 114. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 01:27:52 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 110  Message: 114

Milt and the group,

I guess I never thought about it till Earl asked. Didn't know there was already an easier way till Richard told us.

Either way I still need to count the dits, that gets tough to do at higher speeds.

I ususlly don't have a clue about what speed I'm running. I just try to keep up with the other guy.

Great Question Earl; got us thinking.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 12/1/06, k4oso@... <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> In a message dated 12/1/2006 6:44:49 PM Eastern Standard Time,
> wb9lpu@... <wb9lpu%40earthlink.net> writes:
>
> > Hi, Earl -
> >
> > The formula that you are looking for is: WPM = (dits per second) x 2.4This
> > assumes a 1 to 3 dit-to-dah ratio and a "dit" space between elements.
> >
> > This is a lot easier than sending PARIS repeatedly.
> >
> > 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
> >
>
> Neither of these methods seem particularly easy. I use my keyer (CMOS4) to
>
> "pace" the sender, be it myself or someone else. It seems to work pretty
> well,..... without the math:-)
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 115. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 05:01:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 110  Message: 115

At 03:43 PM 12/1/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>The formula that you are looking for is: WPM = (dits per second) x
>2.4 This assumes a 1 to 3 dit-to-dah ratio and a "dit" space between elements.
>
>This is a lot easier than sending PARIS repeatedly.

Gee, you got THAT right!

At 04:31 PM 12/1/2006, Donald Kemp wrote:

>Earl,
>
>Let me try to figure this out.
>If I send PARIS in one minute that's 1 WPM.

At 06:10 PM 12/1/2006, k4oso@... wrote:
><snip>
>Neither of these methods seem particularly easy. I use my keyer (CMOS4) to
>"pace" the sender, be it myself or someone else. It seems to work pretty
>well,..... without the math:-)

At 06:27 PM 12/1/2006, Donald Kemp wrote:
><snip>
>Great Question Earl; got us thinking.

Thanks all for the info.

You see, I send on my bug at what seems pretty fast to me,
but one of the locals says it's only about 8-10 WPM. With the above
figures, I can see that I'm sending (contest exchanges) at just over
20 WPM -- about 9 dits/second.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 116. I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 08:41:35 UTC
From: Dennis & Donna
Topic: 116  Message: 116

'Cause the XYL got me a 100th Anniversary Vibroplex for our anniversary last month and according to my intell sources, there is a brand new Blue Racer under the tree with my name on it!

That would bring my total up to four bugs - including my J-36 Lionel and my Vibroplex Standard Champion.

73

Dennis - WB0WAO

# 117. Re: [cw_bugs] I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 14:13:14 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 116  Message: 117

At 01:41 AM 12/2/2006, Dennis & Donna wrote:
>'Cause the XYL got me a 100th Anniversary Vibroplex for our anniversary
>last month and according to my intell sources, there is a brand new
>Blue Racer under the tree with my name on it!
>
>That would bring my total up to four bugs - including my J-36 Lionel
>and my Vibroplex Standard Champion.

Gee, Dennis, that's great! I have two bugs -- the 1956
Presentation and a Lionel J-36 -- ands my wife thinks that's one too many! :-)

Do you get display cases and the like for them? My
Presentation came in a plexiglass case, but of course the Lionel did not.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 118. Re: [cw_bugs] I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 16:06:35 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 116  Message: 118

Hi, Earl and All -

Hobby stores like Hobby Lobby sell plastic display cases for model cars. They have one size that fits most bugs, looks pretty nice, and costs (I beleive) less than $10. Maybe the J-36 would like it!

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: Earl Needham <needhame1@...>
>Sent: Dec 2, 2006 9:13 AM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] I must be living right....
>
>At 01:41 AM 12/2/2006, Dennis & Donna wrote:
>>'Cause the XYL got me a 100th Anniversary Vibroplex for our anniversary
>>last month and according to my intell sources, there is a brand new
>>Blue Racer under the tree with my name on it!
>>
>>That would bring my total up to four bugs - including my J-36 Lionel
>>and my Vibroplex Standard Champion.
>
> Gee, Dennis, that's great! I have two bugs -- the 1956
>Presentation and a Lionel J-36 -- ands my wife thinks that's one too many! :-)
>
> Do you get display cases and the like for them? My
>Presentation came in a plexiglass case, but of course the Lionel did not.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
>KD5XB
>Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>

# 119. Re: I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 17:16:02 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 116  Message: 119

Earl and the Group,

I tried one of my Nascar model cases on my bugs and they work great.
I looked online for some suppliers and got these URL's:

http://store.casesforcollectibles.com/9xmirbac18.html
http://www.hobbylinc.com/prods/skg_tes.htm
http://commerce.idmi.net/ecommerce/catalog_detail.asp?
CID=123&CI=405&PI=7832

My case has a mirror on the back and the key looks really good in
that one. A little more than $10 but nice.

Thanks for thinking about that, it's a good idea.

73,

Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Earl and All -
>
> Hobby stores like Hobby Lobby sell plastic display cases for
model cars. They have one size that fits most bugs, looks pretty
nice, and costs (I beleive) less than $10. Maybe the J-36 would like
it!
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
> -----Original Message-----
> >From: Earl Needham <needhame1@...>
> >Sent: Dec 2, 2006 9:13 AM
> >To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> >Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] I must be living right....
> >
> > >
> > Do you get display cases and the like for them? My
> >Presentation came in a plexiglass case, but of course the Lionel
did not.
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> >KD5XB
> >Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> >http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

> >
> >
>

# 120. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-02 18:01:30 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 116  Message: 120

At 09:06 AM 12/2/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
>Hobby stores like Hobby Lobby sell plastic display cases for model
>cars. They have one size that fits most bugs, looks pretty nice, and
>costs (I beleive) less than $10. Maybe the J-36 would like it!

At 10:16 AM 12/2/2006, Don wrote:
>I tried one of my Nascar model cases on my bugs and they work great.
>I looked online for some suppliers and got these URL's:
>
><http://store.casesforcollectibles.com/9xmirbac18.html>http://store.casesforcollectibles.com/9xmirbac18.html
>http://www.hobbylinc.com/prods/skg_tes.htm
><http://commerce.idmi.net/ecommerce/catalog_detail.asp?>http://commerce.idmi.net/ecommerce/catalog_detail.asp?
>CID=123&CI=405&PI=7832
>
>My case has a mirror on the back and the key looks really good in
>that one. A little more than $10 but nice.
>
>Thanks for thinking about that, it's a good idea.

Wow, I wouldn't have thought of that in a million
years! But it sounds like a nice thing to do, so I guess I'll head
down to Hobby Lobby in a few and see what I can find.

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 121. The problem with English

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-03 20:14:53 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 121  Message: 121

I need to define my words first; lete "case" equal a multiple key display case, and for the single key case, let me define that to be a "dust cover."

There are for sale may forms of inexpensive furniture which amount to lit glass shelf display cases. I have seen them sometimes five feet high with a footprint on the floor only two feet by 15 inches. I built my own case which is just 2 w x 1.5 h x .8 d. It still needs work. It needs lighting, and it needs to replace a solid shelf with a glass shelf. It does have magnetic held glass doors. It will hold exactly six bugs inside, and three on top (with dust covers). One more at the operating table accounts for my self-imposed limit of ten keys.

dust covers. Well, different bugs are different size. vibroplex makes a nice one for the original, but that won't fit all bugs for sure, and it's thrity dollars plus shipping. I make my own.

I discovered our glass shop also does plastic. I have been able to buy pieces of 1/8 inch plastic in random sizes, for example, 18 inches by 3 feet, for a dollar and a half. They call it scrap I bought a plastic cutter for similar price, and a small can of plastic glue (which amounts to a plastic colvent) for three bux. there in is enough plastic for many dust covers, each custom fit. Plastic is not cut with a saw. It is scored by running the plastic cutter, a hooked knife, along a straight edge, cutting a groover. The plastic is then snapped over a table edge making a perfectly straight line. EZ

Also, I bought a tiny jeweler's saw for about three bux with which to cut out the opening for the finger pieces. Then I had made a stick-on small piece of brass engraved identifying the key. On the dust cover phtographed her, it says, "Martin-Junior, VIBROPLEX, 1922."

Also visible is the binding-post mounted jack, woolly mammoth ivory finger pieces, and the 40 years of service Western Union pin

Since the tools aren't used up, the cost per dust cover for materials is usually around a dollar. the key is usable while inside these dust-covers. time for construction on the kitchen table is about an hour.

[:^D

73, FD - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 122. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I must be living right....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-04 03:07:16 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 116  Message: 122

At 11:01 AM 12/2/2006, Earl Needham wrote:
>At 09:06 AM 12/2/2006, Richard Meiss wrote:
> >Hobby stores like Hobby Lobby sell plastic display cases for model
> >cars.
>
>At 10:16 AM 12/2/2006, Don wrote:
> >I tried one of my Nascar model cases on my bugs and they work great.
>
>Wow, I wouldn't have thought of that in a million
>years! But it sounds like a nice thing to do, so I guess I'll head
>down to Hobby Lobby in a few and see what I can find.

So I went down to Hobby Lobby and took a look at what they
had. In the end, I decided the Lionel just doesn't need a case. Here's why --

This particular Lionel bug is NOT pristine, has NOT been
restored, indeed it looks like a tool and not a showpiece. I finally
decided that putting it in a display case would be akin to putting a
ball peen hammer in a display case. Better to just treat it as a
tool and USE it! :-)

If I ever get the gumption to refinish it and make it look
marvelous, I just might spring for a case -- but not right now, it
would just be a little out of character.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 123. Codetrol key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-05 22:07:39 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 123  Message: 123

I am looking for one - you can see what they look like at:
http://www.kt5x.com/default.asp

I am not a collector - merely a user. Hence the key does not have to
be in perfect looking condition - only in working (or close) condition.

Thanks,

Bill www.radiotelegraphy.net

# 124. Bribery Does Work!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-06 09:50:59 UTC
From: Dennis
Topic: 124  Message: 124

I received the "main present" for the XYL today and I wrapped it and put it under the tree. It was obvious that it was some type of jewelry and of course that started the XYL wondering what it was. After a couple hours of taunting and teasing her, she "offered" to have an early exchange of one present <grin>. She got a very nice .925 charm braclet with 5 dog-related charms on it (she has been wanting that FOREVER!) and I got a brand new Blue Racer and a wooden carry case for it!

I think it was an even trade....

Dennis - WB0WAO

# 125. Re: Bribery Does Work!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-06 14:51:25 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 124  Message: 125

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Dennis" <wb0wao@...> wrote:
>
> I received the "main present" for the XYL today and I wrapped it and
> put it under the tree. It was obvious that it was some type of
> jewelry and of course that started the XYL wondering what it was.
> After a couple hours of taunting and teasing her, she "offered" to
> have an early exchange of one present <grin>. She got a very
> nice .925 charm braclet with 5 dog-related charms on it (she has been
> wanting that FOREVER!) and I got a brand new Blue Racer and a wooden
> carry case for it!
>
> I think it was an even trade....

Woo hoo!!!!

NICE!!!!

I got my wife a mother/child pendant necklace (ooo....maybe I shouldn't say this in public, but I feel pretty safe here) which has a birthstone of our baby son.

I packed the box it came in inside another larger box with a 5lb SCUBA weight. This is so it's obvious it's not jewelry!

I don't think I've getting a Blue Racer, though.

# 126. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bribery Does Work!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-06 15:22:20 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 124  Message: 126

At 07:51 AM 12/6/2006, ai4re wrote:
>--- In <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com,
>"Dennis" <wb0wao@...> wrote:
> > I received the "main present" for the XYL today and I wrapped it and
> > put it under the tree. It was obvious that it was some type of
> > jewelry and of course that started the XYL wondering what it was.
> > After a couple hours of taunting and teasing her, she "offered" to
> > have an early exchange of one present <grin>. She got a very
> > nice .925 charm braclet with 5 dog-related charms on it (she has been
> > wanting that FOREVER!) and I got a brand new Blue Racer and a wooden
> > carry case for it!
><snip>
>
>I got my wife a mother/child pendant necklace (ooo....maybe I shouldn't
>say this in public, but I feel pretty safe here) which has a birthstone
>of our baby son.
>
>I packed the box it came in inside another larger box with a 5lb SCUBA
>weight. This is so it's obvious it's not jewelry!
>
>I don't think I've getting a Blue Racer, though.

Me, either, but oh well... :-)

Now, I've got Christmas for our two younger sons all planned
out and taken care of. The youngest is 20, the next one is 22 -- I
got the 22 yr-old an FM transmitter for an Ipod Nano, and I'm going
to give it to him in the Radio Shack bag, still with the $10
clearance price sticker on it, and tell him that I think he might try
to use it with his old MP3 player. When he decides he can't do that,
I'm going to give him the Fed-Ex box (that he's already signed for
while I was gone!) and tell him to look inside. He's going to find a
black Ipod Nano with his nickname engraved on it -- ought to make
quite the splash!

The youngest is getting a 30 gb standard Ipod. The oldest
(25 yr old) has already received his leather gig bag so he can carry
around my old Conn 88H while he's working on the cruise ship the next
6 months...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 127. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bribery Does Work!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-06 16:38:40 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 124  Message: 127

And I thought you were going to give #2 son a bottle of Slide-O-Mix trombone libricant, a leather gig bag, and then told him that he could use his old grammar school 'bone to fill it, and then come up with a UPS box with a new Conn 88H-CL with that new rotor design everyone is talking about in rose brass!

Then you'd get one of those GHD bugs - maybe even the fully automatic one!

73

David N1EA
----- Original Message -----
From: Earl Needham
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2006 10:22 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bribery Does Work!

The youngest is getting a 30 gb standard Ipod. The oldest (25 yr old) has already received his leather gig bag so he can carry around my old Conn 88H while he's working on the cruise ship the next 6 months...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 128. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 06:02:41 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 110  Message: 128

By defination a "word" in Morse Code is the 50 baud PARIS. PARIS consists of 50 basic units of time (dots) so it is 50 baud.

60 wpm would be PARIS sent 60 times in one minute.

Thus one PARIS (50 baud) in one second would be sent.

Each dot is 1/50 of a second since 50 baud is sent in one second, then the basic element of the baud is the dot, and it takes 1/50th of a second at 60 wpm.

Thus at 30 wpm the dot takes 2/50th of a second of 1/25 of a second.

10 wpm would be 3/25 of a second dots.

The reason that American Morse is faster than International Morse is because of the "dotty" letters allow it to have more and fast characters than International Morse.

E
I
S
H
T
M = all remain the same - fast letters.
O is faster ee
C is faster ee e
R is faster e ee
Y is faster ee ee
L is faster daaaah

You could calculate this by taking the "most common letters in newsprint (messages)" and compare the baud count in both American Morse and International Morse.

I believe according to my memory when I did this it figured out to about 25% faster for American.

But American Morse would also be faster than International for CODE GROUPS because of the introduction of "dotty" characters.

In International Morse, code groups sent at 20 gpm (groups per minute) equal the "transmission speed" of English sent at 25 wpm (words per minute) - words and groups both being counted as "5" characters.

Also in the old estimation of code speed by American Morse operators, the speed is calculated as "expanded words" from Phillips Code at the ear, to English at the typewriter.

In any event, the limiting factor is the typewriter!

73

DR
----- Original Message -----
From: Donald Kemp
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, December 01, 2006 6:31 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Earl,

Let me try to figure this out.
If I send PARIS in one minute that's 1 WPM.
P = 2 dits and 2 dahs. 1 dah = 3 dits x 2 = 6 + 2 = 8 + 3 spaces between elements & + 1 space between character = 12 dits
A = 1 dit and 1 dah. Thats 1 + 3 + 1 element space + 1 character space = 6 dits
R = 2 dits and 1 dah. 5 = 2 element spaces + 1 character space = 8 dits
I = 2 dits + 1 element space + 1 character space = 4 dits
S = 3 dits + 2 element spaces = 5 dits.

Total dits = 12 + 6 + 8 + 4 + 5 = 35 dits in one minute or 60/35 = 1.7142857seconds/dit
Space between words = 1 dah = 3 dits.
20 WPM would be 60/(20 x 35) + (19 x 3) = 757. 60/757 = .07926 seconds/dit.
1/.07926 = 12.617 dits/second = 20 WPM.

Maybe.

I may be missing something in the spaces between words. Do I actually count them for the dit count?
If not it would be:
20 WPM = 60/(20 x 35) = .0857 sec/dit.
1/.0857 = 11.668 dits/sec = 20 WPM

Not too much difference.

So for any other WPM calculation (using the second formula) it would be:
X WPM = 60/(X x 35) = Y sec/dit
1/Y = Z dits/sec.

IE for 15 WPM.

15 WPM = 60/(15 x 35) = .1142857 sec/dit
1/.1142857 = 8.75 dits/sec.

Hopefully there's already a table somewhere that will let me know if I'm all wet.

It was fun anyway Earl.

73,

Don, NN8B
SKCC 36

On 12/1/06, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
> second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to figure
> how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
> easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.15.3/562 - Release Date: 12/1/2006 1:12 PM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 129. Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 06:40:24 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 110  Message: 129

Further to my last message - I've been looking for the little box graph showing the baud of morse code, but I found this at Kent Engineers - the makers of Kent keys.

Unfortunately - a picture is worth "how many are there?" words pasted herein.

But it does answer some of your questions.

73

David Ring, N1EA
Calculating Morse Code Speed

The word PARIS is the standard for determing CW code speed. Each dit is one element, each dah is three elements, intra-character spacing is one element, inter-character spacing is three elements and inter-word spacing is seven elements. The word PARIS is exactly 50 elements.
Note that after each dit/dah of the letter P -- one element spacing is used except the last one. (Intra-Character).
After the last dit of P is sent, 3 elements are added (Inter-Character). After the word PARIS - 7 elements are used.
Thus:
P = di da da di = 1 1 3 1 3 1 1 (3) = 14 elements
A = di da = 1 1 3 (3) = 8 elements
R = di da di = 1 1 3 1 1 (3) = 10 elements
I = di di = 1 1 1 (3) = 6 elements
S = di di di = 1 1 1 1 1 [7] = 12 elements
Total = 50 elements
() = intercharacter
[] = interword
If you send PARIS 5 times in a minute (5WPM) you have sent 250 elements (using correct spacing). 250 elements into 60 seconds per minute = 240 milliseconds per element.

13 words-per-minute is one element every 92.31 milliseconds.

The Farnsworth method sends the dits and dahs and intra-character spacing at a higher speed, then increasing the inter-character and inter-word spacing to slow the sending speed down to the overall speed. For example, to send at 5 wpm with 13 wpm characters in Farnsworth method, the dits and intra-character spacing would be 92.3 milliseconds, the dah would be 276.9 milliseconds, the inter-character spacing would be 1.443 seconds and inter-word spacing would be 3.367 seconds.

----- Original Message -----
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 1:02 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

By defination a "word" in Morse Code is the 50 baud PARIS. PARIS consists of 50 basic units of time (dots) so it is 50 baud.

60 wpm would be PARIS sent 60 times in one minute.

Thus one PARIS (50 baud) in one second would be sent.

Each dot is 1/50 of a second since 50 baud is sent in one second, then the basic element of the baud is the dot, and it takes 1/50th of a second at 60 wpm.

Thus at 30 wpm the dot takes 2/50th of a second of 1/25 of a second.

10 wpm would be 3/25 of a second dots.

The reason that American Morse is faster than International Morse is because of the "dotty" letters allow it to have more and fast characters than International Morse.

E
I
S
H
T
M = all remain the same - fast letters.
O is faster ee
C is faster ee e
R is faster e ee
Y is faster ee ee
L is faster daaaah

You could calculate this by taking the "most common letters in newsprint (messages)" and compare the baud count in both American Morse and International Morse.

I believe according to my memory when I did this it figured out to about 25% faster for American.

But American Morse would also be faster than International for CODE GROUPS because of the introduction of "dotty" characters.

In International Morse, code groups sent at 20 gpm (groups per minute) equal the "transmission speed" of English sent at 25 wpm (words per minute) - words and groups both being counted as "5" characters.

Also in the old estimation of code speed by American Morse operators, the speed is calculated as "expanded words" from Phillips Code at the ear, to English at the typewriter.

In any event, the limiting factor is the typewriter!

73

DR
----- Original Message -----
From: Donald Kemp
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, December 01, 2006 6:31 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?

Earl,

Let me try to figure this out.
If I send PARIS in one minute that's 1 WPM.
P = 2 dits and 2 dahs. 1 dah = 3 dits x 2 = 6 + 2 = 8 + 3 spaces between elements & + 1 space between character = 12 dits
A = 1 dit and 1 dah. Thats 1 + 3 + 1 element space + 1 character space = 6 dits
R = 2 dits and 1 dah. 5 = 2 element spaces + 1 character space = 8 dits
I = 2 dits + 1 element space + 1 character space = 4 dits
S = 3 dits + 2 element spaces = 5 dits.

Total dits = 12 + 6 + 8 + 4 + 5 = 35 dits in one minute or 60/35 = 1.7142857seconds/dit
Space between words = 1 dah = 3 dits.
20 WPM would be 60/(20 x 35) + (19 x 3) = 757. 60/757 = .07926 seconds/dit.
1/.07926 = 12.617 dits/second = 20 WPM.

Maybe.

I may be missing something in the spaces between words. Do I actually count them for the dit count?
If not it would be:
20 WPM = 60/(20 x 35) = .0857 sec/dit.
1/.0857 = 11.668 dits/sec = 20 WPM

Not too much difference.

So for any other WPM calculation (using the second formula) it would be:
X WPM = 60/(X x 35) = Y sec/dit
1/Y = Z dits/sec.

IE for 15 WPM.

15 WPM = 60/(15 x 35) = .1142857 sec/dit
1/.1142857 = 8.75 dits/sec.

Hopefully there's already a table somewhere that will let me know if I'm all wet.

It was fun anyway Earl.

73,

Don, NN8B
SKCC 36

On 12/1/06, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
> second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to figure
> how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
> easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)

>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.15.3/562 - Release Date: 12/1/2006 1:12 PM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 130. Re: cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 18:51:36 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 102  Message: 130

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, KT5X@... wrote:
> Adjusting a bug. the old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a
> signficant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring
> resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and
> avoiding the dreaded split dit.

I've been using my Vibroplex bug for a couple months now. I've had no one to show me how to work it and none set up by someone who knew what they were doing to look it. In fact, I'd never seen a bug in person before mine arrived in the mail. I wish I had one to look at to see what typical adjustments are. If there are "typical" adjustments.

In my research, I've read to keep the gaps as small as possible to allow a quick transition from dot to dash, which seems to be a common problem with bug users. This seems to go against this advice. Anyway, I set the gaps small, and was actually surprised how small I could get the dot gap and still set up reliable oscillations that last for at least 20 dots. By accounts of people who hear me, (assuming they're honest and not just being polite) my transitions seem fine. I've had one ham tell me he thought I was on an electronic keyer before I told him I was on a bug.

But I do get "scratchy" dots. This is the first time I've read the term "split dit" and wonder if it's the same thing. I've read that the scratchiness is due to an undesired oscillation of the dot hairspring contact. It has been suggested to put a piece of cotton or similar in the hook of the hairspring to dampen it. I tried this, and it didn't seem to do anything.

I think some bug users think the scratchiness is due to bad contacts. If you're getting scrathy dashes, maybe so, but I'm beginning to suspect that most problems are the hairspring oscillations.

It had occured to me some time ago that if I were to increase the dot return tension, the dot contact should be pulled back more quickly when the paddle is released, hopefully before the oscillating hairspring can make contact again. I tried this, but didn't have much luck. I lightened the tension again.

Then I read this post the other day. Last night, I increased the tension again, but also opened the gap quite a bit more than I had it. I quickly adapted to it, and haven't heard an unintentional

scratchy or split dit since then - and K4VD made me give it a good workout last night in our QSO.

The improper space between dots and dashes within a letter that I feared didn't materialize. At least not at my current speed!

I left the dash paddle gap very close, like I'd set up an electronic paddles. The assymetry doesn't seem to bother me.

I'm thinking one of the biggest aspects to learning to use a bug, or even a straight key, is to LISTEN to the sidetone rather than focus on the hand motions or stare at the key. Stare off into space or watch your meter when you send, but concrentrate on listening to your signal. of course, knowing what good code sounds like is important if you're going to adjust your sending correctly, and I think having some experience with computer code lessons and and electronic keyer before trying a bug is helpful.

The other thing that took me a while to figure out on my own was hand position. I never read really good instructions. And in this case, I think the bug and paddle use pretty much the same position. I'd read that the paddle is operated with a "rocking" of the wrist. I'd read instructions that say to put your thumb on one paddle and index finger on the other.

Well, I didn't find that natural, and I ended up using my middle finger on the dash paddle. And how do you rock your wrist?

Well, maybe this was obvious to everyone else in the world, but I had my palm flat on the table as though I were using a straight key. One day, it occurred to me to rotate my hand so my hand were resting on the SIDE of my hand. Amazingly, the index finger preferred to fall on the right paddle opposite the thumb, and I could, indeed, get a rocking motion pivoting on the side of the hand. I also decided that I worked the dash lever best with a bend in my finger.

I also think I've concluded that Vibroplex has the paddle design correct with the assymetric finger pieces on the recent model bugs.

# 131. Re: Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 18:50:48 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 110  Message: 131

While we're on captivating subjects, does anyone know how many pieces of lint makes a bellbutton full?
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> By defination a "word" in Morse Code is the 50 baud PARIS. PARIS consists of 50 basic units of time (dots) so it is 50 baud.
>
> 60 wpm would be PARIS sent 60 times in one minute.
>
> Thus one PARIS (50 baud) in one second would be sent.
>
> Each dot is 1/50 of a second since 50 baud is sent in one second, then the basic element of the baud is the dot, and it takes 1/50th of a second at 60 wpm.
>
> Thus at 30 wpm the dot takes 2/50th of a second of 1/25 of a second.
>
> 10 wpm would be 3/25 of a second dots.
>
> The reason that American Morse is faster than International Morse is because of the "dotty" letters allow it to have more and fast characters than International Morse.
>
> E
> I
> S
> H
> T
> M = all remain the same - fast letters.
> O is faster ee
> C is faster ee e
> R is faster e ee
> Y is faster ee ee
> L is faster daaaah
>
> You could calculate this by taking the "most common letters in newsprint (messages)" and compare the baud count in both American Morse and International Morse.
>
> I believe according to my memory when I did this it figured out to about 25% faster for American.
>
> But American Morse would also be faster than International for CODE

GROUPS because of the introduction of "dotty" characters.
>
> In International Morse, code groups sent at 20 gpm (groups per
minute) equal the "transmission speed" of English sent at 25 wpm
(words per minute) - words and groups both being counted as "5"
characters.
>
> Also in the old estimation of code speed by American Morse
operators, the speed is calculated as "expanded words" from Phillips
Code at the ear, to English at the typewriter.
>
> In any event, the limiting factor is the typewriter!
>
> 73
>
> DR
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Donald Kemp
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Friday, December 01, 2006 6:31 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Dit speed to WPM?
>
>
> Earl,
>
> Let me try to figure this out.
> If I send PARIS in one minute that's 1 WPM.
> P = 2 dits and 2 dahs. 1 dah = 3 dits x 2 = 6 + 2 = 8 + 3 spaces
between
> elements & + 1 space between character = 12 dits
> A = 1 dit and 1 dah. Thats 1 + 3 + 1 element space + 1 character
space = 6
> dits
> R = 2 dits and 1 dah. 5 = 2 element spaces + 1 character space =
8 dits
> I = 2 dits + 1 element space + 1 character space = 4 dits
> S = 3 dits + 2 element spaces = 5 dits.
>
> Total dits = 12 + 6 + 8 + 4 + 5 = 35 dits in one minute or 60/35 =
> 1.7142857seconds/dit
> Space between words = 1 dah = 3 dits.
> 20 WPM would be 60/(20 x 35) + (19 x 3) = 757. 60/757 = .07926
seconds/dit.
> 1/.07926 = 12.617 dits/second = 20 WPM.
>
> Maybe.
>
> I may be missing something in the spaces between words. Do I
actually count
> them for the dit count?

> If not it would be:
> 20 WPM = 60/(20 x 35) = .0857 sec/dit.
> 1/.0857 = 11.668 dits/sec = 20 WPM
>
> Not too much difference.
>
> So for any other WPM calculation (using the second formula) it
would be:
> X WPM = 60/(X x 35) = Y sec/dit
> 1/Y = Z dits/sec.
>
> IE for 15 WPM.
>
> 15 WPM = 60/(15 x 35) = .1142857 sec/dit
> 1/.1142857 = 8.75 dits/sec.
>
> Hopefully there's already a table somewhere that will let me know
if I'm all
> wet.
>
> It was fun anyway Earl.
>
> 73,
>
> Don, NN8B
> SKCC 36
>
> On 12/1/06, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> >
> > Is there a general rule of thumb, that so many dits per
> > second equals so many WPM? It would make it a lot easier to
figure
> > how fast somebody was sending, how fast a bug is, etc. -- a LOT
> > easier than sending PARIS repeatedly! :-)
> >
> > Thanks,
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB
> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> >
> >
> >
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

>
>
>
> ----------
----------
>
>
> No virus found in this incoming message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.
> Version: 7.5.430 / Virus Database: 268.15.3/562 - Release Date:
12/1/2006 1:12 PM
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 132. Re: Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 18:53:05 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 110  Message: 132

By the way, a "bellbutton" is the same as a "bellybutton":-)
Milt k4oso

# 133. Re: cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 19:15:14 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 102  Message: 133

AI4RE,
Sounds like you figured it out pretty well. Thats the same way I
learned to use a bug. You should be fine.
73, Milt k4oso
SKCC 180C
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, KT5X@ wrote:
> > Adjusting a bug. the old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In
> fact, a
> > signficant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant
spring
> > resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for
producing
> dits and
> > avoiding the dreaded split dit.
>
> I've been using my Vibroplex bug for a couple months now. I've had
> no one to show me how to work it and none set up by someone who
knew
> what they were doing to look it. In fact, I'd never seen a bug in
> person before mine arrived in the mail. I wish I had one to look
at
> to see what typical adjustments are. If there are "typical"
> adjustments.
>
> In my research, I've read to keep the gaps as small as possible to
> allow a quick transition from dot to dash, which seems to be a
common
> problem with bug users. This seems to go against this advice.
> Anyway, I set the gaps small, and was actually surprised how small
I
> could get the dot gap and still set up reliable oscillations that
> last for at least 20 dots. By accounts of people who hear me,
> (assuming they're honest and not just being polite) my transitions
> seem fine. I've had one ham tell me he thought I was on an
> electronic keyer before I told him I was on a bug.
>
> But I do get "scratchy" dots. This is the first time I've read the
> term "split dit" and wonder if it's the same thing. I've read that
> the scratchiness is due to an undesired oscillation of the dot
> hairspring contact. It has been suggested to put a piece of cotton
> or similar in the hook of the hairspring to dampen it. I tried
this,
> and it didn't seem to do anything.

>
> I think some bug users think the scratchiness is due to bad
> contacts. If you're getting scrathy dashes, maybe so, but I'm
> beginning to suspect that most problems are the hairspring
> oscillations.
>
> It had occured to me some time ago that if I were to increase the
dot
> return tension, the dot contact should be pulled back more quickly
> when the paddle is released, hopefully before the oscillating
> hairspring can make contact again. I tried this, but didn't have
> much luck. I lightened the tension again.
>
> Then I read this post the other day. Last night, I increased the
> tension again, but also opened the gap quite a bit more than I had
> it. I quickly adapted to it, and haven't heard an unintentional
> scratchy or split dit since then - and K4VD made me give it a good
> workout last night in our QSO.
>
> The improper space between dots and dashes within a letter that I
> feared didn't materialize. At least not at my current speed!
>
> I left the dash paddle gap very close, like I'd set up an
electronic
> paddles. The assymetry doesn't seem to bother me.
>
> I'm thinking one of the biggest aspects to learning to use a bug,
or
> even a straight key, is to LISTEN to the sidetone rather than focus
> on the hand motions or stare at the key. Stare off into space or
> watch your meter when you send, but concrentrate on listening to
your
> signal. of course, knowing what good code sounds like is important
> if you're going to adjust your sending correctly, and I think
having
> some experience with computer code lessons and and electronic keyer
> before trying a bug is helpful.
>
> The other thing that took me a while to figure out on my own was
hand
> position. I never read really good instructions. And in this
case,
> I think the bug and paddle use pretty much the same position. I'd
> read that the paddle is operated with a "rocking" of the wrist.
I'd
> read instructions that say to put your thumb on one paddle and
index
> finger on the other.
>
> Well, I didn't find that natural, and I ended up using my middle

> finger on the dash paddle. And how do you rock your wrist?
>
> Well, maybe this was obvious to everyone else in the world, but I
had
> my palm flat on the table as though I were using a straight key.
One
> day, it occurred to me to rotate my hand so my hand were resting on
> the SIDE of my hand. Amazingly, the index finger preferred to fall
> on the right paddle opposite the thumb, and I could, indeed, get a
> rocking motion pivoting on the side of the hand. I also decided
that
> I worked the dash lever best with a bend in my finger.
>
> I also think I've concluded that Vibroplex has the paddle design
> correct with the assymetric finger pieces on the recent model bugs.
>

# 134. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 19:17:22 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen, K4VD
Topic: 102  Message: 134

Excellent comments John. Until this thread I had no clue what split dots were but I had been plagued by them with all my bugs, new to old. I finally solved it by running my bugs through a K-5 keyer in hand key mode. I think it may be debouncing the contacts which might provide a clue to other solutions. From your description below, it might also be covering up misadjustments.

73,
Kev, K4VD
HYPERLINK "http://k4vd.net/"http://k4vd.net/

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.15/579 - Release Date: 12/7/2006 1:31 PM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 135. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-07 20:41:37 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 102  Message: 135

Your wrist is "rocked" with the same motion that you use when opening a door knob, the wrist and are lie on the desk and rock with that motion.

Finger motions are not to be used as they give carpal tunnel syndrome (glass arm) the idea is to rock the wrist with a bug and cootie key. Unfortunately the paddle used with an electronic keyer must be tapped with fingers at high speeds :(

73

David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: ai4re
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, December 07, 2006 1:51 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: cleaning and adjusting a Vibroplex

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, KT5X@... wrote:
> Adjusting a bug. the old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a
> signficant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring
> resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and
> avoiding the dreaded split dit.

I've been using my Vibroplex bug for a couple months now. I've had no one to show me how to work it and none set up by someone who knew what they were doing to look it. In fact, I'd never seen a bug in person before mine arrived in the mail. I wish I had one to look at to see what typical adjustments are. If there are "typical" adjustments.

In my research, I've read to keep the gaps as small as possible to allow a quick transition from dot to dash, which seems to be a common problem with bug users. This seems to go against this advice. Anyway, I set the gaps small, and was actually surprised how small I could get the dot gap and still set up reliable oscillations that last for at least 20 dots. By accounts of people who hear me, (assuming they're honest and not just being polite) my transitions seem fine. I've had one ham tell me he thought I was on an electronic keyer before I told him I was on a bug.

But I do get "scratchy" dots. This is the first time I've read the term "split dit" and wonder if it's the same thing. I've read that the scratchiness is due to an undesired oscillation of the dot hairspring contact. It has been suggested to put a piece of cotton

or similar in the hook of the hairspring to dampen it. I tried this, and it didn't seem to do anything.

I think some bug users think the scratchiness is due to bad contacts. If you're getting scrathy dashes, maybe so, but I'm beginning to suspect that most problems are the hairspring oscillations.

It had occured to me some time ago that if I were to increase the dot return tension, the dot contact should be pulled back more quickly when the paddle is released, hopefully before the oscillating hairspring can make contact again. I tried this, but didn't have much luck. I lightened the tension again.

Then I read this post the other day. Last night, I increased the tension again, but also opened the gap quite a bit more than I had it. I quickly adapted to it, and haven't heard an unintentional scratchy or split dit since then - and K4VD made me give it a good workout last night in our QSO.

The improper space between dots and dashes within a letter that I feared didn't materialize. At least not at my current speed!

I left the dash paddle gap very close, like I'd set up an electronic paddles. The assymetry doesn't seem to bother me.

I'm thinking one of the biggest aspects to learning to use a bug, or even a straight key, is to LISTEN to the sidetone rather than focus on the hand motions or stare at the key. Stare off into space or watch your meter when you send, but concrentrate on listening to your signal. of course, knowing what good code sounds like is important if you're going to adjust your sending correctly, and I think having some experience with computer code lessons and and electronic keyer before trying a bug is helpful.

The other thing that took me a while to figure out on my own was hand position. I never read really good instructions. And in this case, I think the bug and paddle use pretty much the same position. I'd read that the paddle is operated with a "rocking" of the wrist. I'd read instructions that say to put your thumb on one paddle and index finger on the other.

Well, I didn't find that natural, and I ended up using my middle finger on the dash paddle. And how do you rock your wrist?

Well, maybe this was obvious to everyone else in the world, but I had my palm flat on the table as though I were using a straight key. One day, it occurred to me to rotate my hand so my hand were resting on the SIDE of my hand. Amazingly, the index finger preferred to fall on the right paddle opposite the thumb, and I could, indeed, get a rocking motion pivoting on the side of the hand. I also decided that I worked the dash lever best with a bend in my finger.

I also think I've concluded that Vibroplex has the paddle design correct with the assymetric finger pieces on the recent model bugs.

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.14/578 - Release Date: 12/7/2006 1:27 AM

# 136. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Dit speed to WPM?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-08 06:12:58 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 110  Message: 136

At 11:53 AM 12/7/2006, k4oso wrote:
>By the way, a "bellbutton" is the same as a "bellybutton":-)
>Milt k4oso

Gee, now you got me wondering if this same comparison
translates over to bell bottoms...

Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 137. December NQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-10 23:57:23 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 137  Message: 137

This Tuesday evening (Wednesday morning UTC time) will be the NAQCC Sprint for December.

This month, the Sprint will be held on 80, 40 and 20 meters. This month, a special certificate will be given to the operator who can spell out the word "Christmas" using the fewest stations possible. The Sprint will run from 8:30 to 10:30 PM EST, 7:30 to 9:30 PM CST, 6:30 to 8:30 PM MST and 5:30 to 7:30 PM PST or from 0130 to 0330 UTC on the morning of December 13th. The recommended frequencies are:

80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz)
20M - 14059-14065 kHz.

The exchange is as follows:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members send power level in place of NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

Remember to mention the type of antenna you have used when submitting your log as there will be two separate categories - simple wire antennas and gain antennas, such as yagis, quads and periodics.

Also, remember the bonus multipliers that you get for using either a straight key or bug during the event. All entries must be postmarked or email dated before 2400Z on December 19th, 2006.

For full details, please visit
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200612.html

And to join the NAQCC (if you haven't already!) please go to
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/joinup.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 138. GHD GN907 New Owner!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-11 23:35:01 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 138  Message: 138

I just received a GN907 after an unbelievably generous deal. What a beautiful looking machine. What an unbelievably complex machine to set up!

I have the semi-auto mode going very well. Compared to my older vibroplexes it is more crisp but also less forgiving. Let me see if I can explain.

Compared to my 48 Blue Racer, there is less play in all the parts. The Blue Racer feels very comfortable to me, like sitting in a cushy chair watching TV. The GHD has no play. Everything feels precise. It is almost like sitting in an ergonomically designed office chair and getting down to business.

When locked in semi mode it is a natural transition from the Vibroplex. It took me only a few minutes of practice to get the timing down mostly correct. In auto mode - it is like nothing you have used before. I've heard some say it feels like paddles. Not for me. I'm used to Iambic paddles and this is a different beast altogether. It will take some getting used to and a lot of playing with the adjustments.

The instructions that came with the bug are OK. Plenty of detail but obviously translated from another language. It is going to take a lot of experimenting to get things dialed in properly.

Thank you to Jim, N3ZJ for such a wonderful Christmas present.

A couple of pictures will be in the photos section shortly.

# 139. The airwaves will be huming!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-12 00:04:11 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 139  Message: 139

Wow! Lots of QRP signals will be flyin' through the air tomorrow (Tuesday) night! There will be both activity from the QRP Foxhunters as well as the NAQCCers! I know a lot of you out there are members of both organizations and will have fun participating in both events. But for those of you who are not; I hope you'll take this opportunity to sample some other fare than what you might be accustomed to!

For the Foxhunters - the NAQCC is the North American QRP CW Club; and each month they hold a two hour Sprint. The Sprint tomorrow night will start a half hour before the hunt and will end when the hunt ends. The exchange is simple - RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC #. If you're not an NAQCCer, please give your power instead (followed by the W, of course)! The contest call they use; and that you will hear is "CQ NA". Since all NAQCC Sprints are open to everyone, membership in the NAQCC is not necessary. For details on the rules, please check out:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200612.html

For the NAQCCers - tomorrow night is the 80 Meter QRP Foxhunt. Two QRPers act as Foxes and will be on a frequency somewhere between 3.550 and 3.570 MHz. Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to grab the Fox "pelt". That is, you must have a successfully find the Fox; and then complete two-way QSO with the him. The QSO is an exchange exchange is RST, S/P/C, name and power out. A word of warning! Foxes are sly creatures that usually work split; so even when you find one, odds are you will have to use your wiles to figure out where the Foxes are listening if you want to grab their pelt! If you want to hone your QRP DX operating skills, this is the way to do it! For a complete summary of the rules, please visit:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

80 Meters just might get a tad crowded tomorrow night; but with the band assignment changing as of Friday, this is a good thing. So get on the air tomorrow night and have some fun, be courteous, try something new (maybe) and let's show the FCC that CW is indeed NOT DEAD!

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 140. Re: GHD GN907 New Owner!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-14 19:23:05 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 138  Message: 140

What goes around, comes around.

Kevin is being rewarded for his own generosity.

I hadn't said anything in public before only because I didn't want anyone thinking, "Why didn't Keving do that for me," but when I was new to the SKCC and Yahoo group, and he didn't know me from Adam, but I expressed an interest in learning to use a bug, and Kevin made me a ridiculously generous offer to acquire on his bugs. He even gave me a choice - I could have a classic 1940-something model, or a late model Vibroplex Standard. I was more interested in using than collecting, so selected the like-new late model bug for which parts are available.

I am thrilled with the bug and dumbfounded at Kevin's generosity toward me, and I am thrilled that someone showed this generosity toward Kevin!

# 141. Last RFTB for 2006

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-15 23:06:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 141  Message: 141

Well, folks, this is it - the last RFTB for 2006. This is a busy one too, so I hope and pray that the ionosphere will calm down enough that we'll actually be able to hear one another!

First, in addition to the normal 1st, 2nd and 3rd place certificates that will be issued, the winner of the December RFTB will be receiving a special Holiday Piggie treat courtesy of Jeff K3OQ. Second, after this RFTB, the "Big Pig of the Sty", "El Numero Uno Hog" will be determined. This fine porkster will achieve a Certificate of Achievement as well as a special Piggie memento. Second and third place point accumulators for the year will receive something special also. And for those of you who participated in at least 10 RFTBs throughout the year will receive a "Piggie Attendance Award" So, here and forthwith begins the formal announcement. Roll the tape!

(Dramatic Pause)

This Sunday evening, the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EST (0200-0400 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on http://www.fpqrp.com/. Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.html;
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is December 24th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 142. New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 00:15:13 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 142  Message: 142

Hi,

I am new to this group though I been on some other CW groups recently.

I have an old Vibroplex Champion bug # 270463. That dates it around 1973 I believe. I have been trying to slow it down. I got into the 15 to 18 wpm range. Of course that depends on the dot to dash ratio which is highly fists dependent.

I am fairly new to CW. Been practicing the past 10 weeks or so. My copy speed is up to 15 wpm on a good day. So I don't need to be sending any faster. So I far I been using a nice Bencher Hex Key paddles with an K1EL WinKeyer USB and a Bencher RJ-1 straight key.

I have having a problem sending fast dashes sequentially. This includes the straight key and the bug. I am fine with the straight key up to 15 wpm with a reasonable fist. That means I think someone on the other end could copy me FB. Of course it does not mean perfectly timed code. My dashes seem to be long compared to my dots and and dots are no the short side. The dot issue does not directly affect bug sending, but the dash issue does.

I find that making a fast series of dashes on the bug is a little easier if I avoid the knob and stay on the oval piece. It is hard for me to send a good series of dashes say at 20 wpm, such as the number 0. This also makes certain characters like Q, Y, P, J, and many of the number sound strange.

I have played with various bug settings. Setting the dash space too narrow interferes with sending dots for some reason.

Some of this could be due to how I am trying to slow the bug down. I put a brass mending brace under the weight screw and point it in a general direction away from the arm. My bug has a single weight for the flat arm and only gets down to about 22 to 25 wpm. I am measuring the speed by comparing a string of dits with my electronic keyer which is can in specific wpm speeds. I am wondering if one or two extra flat weights from Vibroplex will give me the speed reduction I desire. Actually 17 wpm would work for me. For lower speeds, I would simply space out the characters. I am aware of Vari-Speed and Extendadot, but would rather use extra weights if they would work.

These are enough questions for now. I look forward to any good advice.

73,

Steve N6VL
FISTS 12707
SKCC 2383

# 143. Re: [cw_bugs] New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 00:57:32 UTC
From: Troy,W6HV
Topic: 142  Message: 143

Steve,
The way I did a slow down was to make an extension arm for the pendulum just behind the damper for my Blue Racer. I used a scrap of auto antenna tubing and a pull knob from an old faucet. This, along with a Vari-speed and one medium weight slowed it down without messing with the "balance". Several have recommended using one of the free software packages (like CWget) to see if the program can copy your fist. Sounds like a good way to practice sending.
We are almost neighbors (I'm in Redlands), so if you are in the neighborhood stop in and I'll show you how my Blue Racer is set up.
Troy

n6vl wrote:
> Hi,
>
> I am new to this group though I been on some other CW groups recently.
>
> I have an old Vibroplex Champion bug # 270463. That dates it around
> 1973 I believe. I have been trying to slow it down. I got into the 15
> to 18 wpm range. Of course that depends on the dot to dash ratio which
> is highly fists dependent.
>
> I am fairly new to CW. Been practicing the past 10 weeks or so. My
> copy speed is up to 15 wpm on a good day. So I don't need to be
> sending any faster. So I far I been using a nice Bencher Hex Key
> paddles with an K1EL WinKeyer USB and a Bencher RJ-1 straight key.
>
> I have having a problem sending fast dashes sequentially. This
> includes the straight key and the bug. I am fine with the straight key
> up to 15 wpm with a reasonable fist. That means I think someone on the
> other end could copy me FB. Of course it does not mean perfectly timed
> code. My dashes seem to be long compared to my dots and and dots are
> no the short side. The dot issue does not directly affect bug sending,
> but the dash issue does.
>
> I find that making a fast series of dashes on the bug is a little
> easier if I avoid the knob and stay on the oval piece. It is hard for
> me to send a good series of dashes say at 20 wpm, such as the number
> 0. This also makes certain characters like Q, Y, P, J, and many of the
> number sound strange.
>
> I have played with various bug settings. Setting the dash space too
> narrow interferes with sending dots for some reason.
>
> Some of this could be due to how I am trying to slow the bug down. I

> put a brass mending brace under the weight screw and point it in a
> general direction away from the arm. My bug has a single weight for
> the flat arm and only gets down to about 22 to 25 wpm. I am measuring
> the speed by comparing a string of dits with my electronic keyer which
> is can in specific wpm speeds. I am wondering if one or two extra flat
> weights from Vibroplex will give me the speed reduction I desire.
> Actually 17 wpm would work for me. For lower speeds, I would simply
> space out the characters. I am aware of Vari-Speed and Extendadot, but
> would rather use extra weights if they would work.
>
> These are enough questions for now. I look forward to any good advice.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
> FISTS 12707
> SKCC 2383
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 144. Re: [cw_bugs] New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 01:57:12 UTC
From: richard B
Topic: 142  Message: 144

I've found many ways to slow the pendulum. The easiest was just to add more weights to the pendulum.
73,
Rich KF2V

"Troy,W6HV" <w6hv@...> wrote:
Steve,
The way I did a slow down was to make an extension arm for the pendulum just behind the damper for my Blue Racer. I used a scrap of auto antenna tubing and a pull knob from an old faucet. This, along with a Vari-speed and one medium weight slowed it down without messing with the "balance". Several have recommended using one of the free software packages (like CWget) to see if the program can copy your fist. Sounds like a good way to practice sending.
We are almost neighbors (I'm in Redlands), so if you are in the neighborhood stop in and I'll show you how my Blue Racer is set up.
Troy

n6vl wrote:
> Hi,
>
> I am new to this group though I been on some other CW groups recently.
>
> I have an old Vibroplex Champion bug # 270463. That dates it around
> 1973 I believe. I have been trying to slow it down. I got into the 15
> to 18 wpm range. Of course that depends on the dot to dash ratio which
> is highly fists dependent.
>
> I am fairly new to CW. Been practicing the past 10 weeks or so. My
> copy speed is up to 15 wpm on a good day. So I don't need to be
> sending any faster. So I far I been using a nice Bencher Hex Key
> paddles with an K1EL WinKeyer USB and a Bencher RJ-1 straight key.
>
> I have having a problem sending fast dashes sequentially. This
> includes the straight key and the bug. I am fine with the straight key
> up to 15 wpm with a reasonable fist. That means I think someone on the
> other end could copy me FB. Of course it does not mean perfectly timed
> code. My dashes seem to be long compared to my dots and and dots are
> no the short side. The dot issue does not directly affect bug sending,
> but the dash issue does.
>
> I find that making a fast series of dashes on the bug is a little
> easier if I avoid the knob and stay on the oval piece. It is hard for
> me to send a good series of dashes say at 20 wpm, such as the number
> 0. This also makes certain characters like Q, Y, P, J, and many of the

> number sound strange.
>
> I have played with various bug settings. Setting the dash space too
> narrow interferes with sending dots for some reason.
>
> Some of this could be due to how I am trying to slow the bug down. I
> put a brass mending brace under the weight screw and point it in a
> general direction away from the arm. My bug has a single weight for
> the flat arm and only gets down to about 22 to 25 wpm. I am measuring
> the speed by comparing a string of dits with my electronic keyer which
> is can in specific wpm speeds. I am wondering if one or two extra flat
> weights from Vibroplex will give me the speed reduction I desire.
> Actually 17 wpm would work for me. For lower speeds, I would simply
> space out the characters. I am aware of Vari-Speed and Extendadot, but
> would rather use extra weights if they would work.
>
> These are enough questions for now. I look forward to any good advice.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
> FISTS 12707
> SKCC 2383
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

---
Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 145. Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 02:21:52 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 142  Message: 145

Troy,

It does look like you have tried CWGet yourself. I already tried the CWGet method and like it. I have a sound card interface to my 756 Pro 2 already. The sidetone from the rig works just fine with CWGet. I have only one issue with CWGet. The speed sensing algorithm seems off sometimes. I got send 15 wpm with my K1EL keyer and get an accurate reading. But with a straight key or bug sending at about the same speed (by my ear), the reported speed can be very different. I wonder if it has to do with the characteristics of my fist. I also notice CWGet has a speed lock feature which I haven't tried yet. It is not perfect. A bad fist or a poor S/N ratio will break it. It is a lot better than the CW decoding in MixW.

I had been using the keyer and paddles but have recently put them aside. I have some code copying issues. I still count dots and dashes and find a keyer is reinforcing it. The straight key feels more intuitive like a whole body experience. Yes I can send better code with the keyer. But a straight might better help me recognize characters by rhythm. I am at 15 wpm now on a good day and have broken through that nasty barrier at 10 to 12 wpm through daily practice. But I fear I am getting faster using the slower mental lookup table, and need to progress into the rhythm. I feel like the straight key is much better at this. The bug is somewhere between a straight and a keyer in respect to the whole body experience.

Do you have any thoughts about bug adjustments for better dashes? My dashes are a bit too long for the dot lengths, a little over 3 to 1. I have been able to get the dot weight set OK using CWGet and looking at the pulse train for a 50 % duty cycle.

Right now I can sending better code with my RJ-1 straight key than with the bug according to CWGet. A lot of the problem with the bug is getting the dashes the correct length and with the correct gap before and after each dash. Characters without sequential dashes are less of a problem for me.

73,

Steve N6VL
FISTS 12707
SKCC 2383

# 146. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 16:53:31 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 142  Message: 146

Steve,
Sure sounds as though you're getting your Champion set up in fine shape. I had a lot of help from two old- time professional ops and also from reading many of the adjustment articles you can find on-line. One you might like to read is at http://www.qsl.net/n4xy/PDFs/vibroadj.pdf<http://www.qsl.net/n4xy/PDFs/vibroadj.pdf> . The article does address both dot and dash spacing and there is a labeled diagram of a "bug". A program I use to practice copy, when the bands are dead, is the one available at http://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer.htm<http://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer.htm> . Also, there is a QCWA net on 7.034 at 11 AM PST, Sundays, that I participate in. Join in, they are a friendly, small group.
Troy, W6HV
FISTS #6847
SKCC #920

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 147. Re: [cw_bugs] New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-18 16:34:05 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 142  Message: 147

Hello Steve,

Welcome aboard.

Keep sending with the straight key, it will develop your rhythm.

You'll find instructions for adjusting the keys various places on the internet including at www.morsex.com and by reading the on-line (and downloadable) "Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy"
http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/n0hff.htm

I find the bug far too difficult to send with at speeds below about 22 wpm.

The "standard" speed range of an Original bug is about 25 to 35 with the standard two small weights on it - which is what it should be as the top speed of a hand key is about 25 wpm.

The Champion and Lightning Bug which have a flat bar go slower around 20 wpm.

73

David N1EA
----- Original Message -----
From: n6vl
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, December 17, 2006 7:15 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] New to group with questions...

Hi,

I am new to this group though I been on some other CW groups recently.

I have an old Vibroplex Champion bug # 270463. That dates it around 1973 I believe. I have been trying to slow it down. I got into the 15 to 18 wpm range. Of course that depends on the dot to dash ratio which is highly fists dependent.

I am fairly new to CW. Been practicing the past 10 weeks or so. My copy speed is up to 15 wpm on a good day. So I don't need to be sending any faster. So I far I been using a nice Bencher Hex Key paddles with an K1EL WinKeyer USB and a Bencher RJ-1 straight key.

I have having a problem sending fast dashes sequentially. This includes the straight key and the bug. I am fine with the straight key up to 15 wpm with a reasonable fist. That means I think someone on the other end could copy me FB. Of course it does not mean perfectly timed code. My dashes seem to be long compared to my dots and and dots are

no the short side. The dot issue does not directly affect bug sending, but the dash issue does.

I find that making a fast series of dashes on the bug is a little easier if I avoid the knob and stay on the oval piece. It is hard for me to send a good series of dashes say at 20 wpm, such as the number 0. This also makes certain characters like Q, Y, P, J, and many of the number sound strange.

I have played with various bug settings. Setting the dash space too narrow interferes with sending dots for some reason.

Some of this could be due to how I am trying to slow the bug down. I put a brass mending brace under the weight screw and point it in a general direction away from the arm. My bug has a single weight for the flat arm and only gets down to about 22 to 25 wpm. I am measuring the speed by comparing a string of dits with my electronic keyer which is can in specific wpm speeds. I am wondering if one or two extra flat weights from Vibroplex will give me the speed reduction I desire. Actually 17 wpm would work for me. For lower speeds, I would simply space out the characters. I am aware of Vari-Speed and Extendadot, but would rather use extra weights if they would work.

These are enough questions for now. I look forward to any good advice.

73,

Steve N6VL
FISTS 12707
SKCC 2383

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.23/591 - Release Date: 12/17/2006
3:17 PM

# 148. Just Read This in QST ... Everyone Can Send Left Handed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-19 15:12:51 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 148  Message: 148

On page 62 of the January 2007 QST there is a note from W4PA about an obsolete contester skill. He's referring to paddles but I tried it with my bug and was real surprised it worked.

He says... "Right-handed ops, take the paddle and turn it around 180 degrees so the back of the paddle faces you. Place your left hand on top of the paddle, so your left thumb rests on the dit paddle and your left index finger on the dah paddle."

Give it a try... it works! The code wasn't as clean and it certainly isn't comfortable with the bug backwards but it is an interesting experiment. I wonder if that means if I get a left-handed bug, then learning to send good CW with the left hand might not be as difficult as I thought.

73,
Kev, K4VD
SKCC 605 C 4
FISTS 11712 CC 1798
HYPERLINK "http://k4vd.net/"http://k4vd.net/

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.25/593 - Release Date: 12/19/2006 1:17 PM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 149. Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 07:16:35 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 142  Message: 149

David,

My Champion does not goes down to 20 wpm with the single weight it came with. It is somewhere around 23 - 25 wpm comparing a stream of dits with my keyer. Can the Champion get down to 20 wpm with a single weight. It is probably a 0.8 oz weight. Betsy at Vibroplex says that is standard weight it came with. Is moving the weight the only way to set the speed? Do any of the other adjustments affect speed? I would love for it to get down to 20 wpm without any changes like the Vari-Speed. Maybe an additional 1 oz weight will work.

I have found a temporary method to slow down the bug. I put a mending brace on top of the weight using the screw extending the arm.

22 wpm??? I can't make dashes fast enough for that speed.

For now I am sticking to the straight key. Picked up a Bencher RJ-1. It has a manufacturing flaw. The bearings bind if the pivot housing is bolted snuggly to the base. Loosening 1 of the 4 screws fixes the problem. Once I figured it out, the key is smooth as silk. Too bad, because I will have to send it in for service. Obviously there was a machining defect. Otherwise I like the RJ-1 much better than the Speed-X.

If I could get the dashes down pat, I think I'll like the bug. Once I found the binding problem in the RJ-1, dashes are a lot easier to send. I am sure the bug needs proper adjustment, and practice of course.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 150. Re: [cw_bugs] Just Read This in QST ... Everyone Can Send Left Handed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 08:01:34 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 148  Message: 150

At 08:12 AM 12/19/2006, Kevin der Kinderen wrote:
>On page 62 of the January 2007 QST there is a note from W4PA about an
>obsolete contester skill. He's referring to paddles but I tried it with my
>bug and was real surprised it worked.

I saw the note, too. I can assure you that it works with a
paddle, but I've never tried it with a bug -- I've always been afraid
I'll forget and try to rest my left hand on the pendulum!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 151. Re: [cw_bugs] Just Read This in QST ... Everyone Can Send Left Handed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 12:47:06 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 148  Message: 151

Could probably turn some bugs upsidedown to use left handed.. Might be able to get the Vib Lightning to do that. I think the McElroy was also designed to turn on it's side so it could be used as a straight key. It had a lock for the dot arm.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 12/20/06, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 08:12 AM 12/19/2006, Kevin der Kinderen wrote:
> >On page 62 of the January 2007 QST there is a note from W4PA about an
> >obsolete contester skill. He's referring to paddles but I tried it with
> my
> >bug and was real surprised it worked.
>
> I saw the note, too. I can assure you that it works with a
> paddle, but I've never tried it with a bug -- I've always been afraid
> I'll forget and try to rest my left hand on the pendulum!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

## 152. Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 19:31:30 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 142  Message: 152

Steve, it sounds like you may be trying to make dashes with your fingers. Dashes are EZ to make up to about 35 wpm, and it is quite doable up to perhaps 50 wpm.

Your wrist should be off the table. Your elbow may be on the table, though I sometimes do it with the whole arm flying.

Dashes are a nervous twitch against the dash spring resistance, a reflexive action, NOT a controlled expression of muscle contraction and relaxation, that process is much too slow.

73, Fred kt5x
49 years of all CW.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 153. various

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 19:53:49 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 153  Message: 153

* Yes, putting the left hand over the top of bugs set backwards is a well known and long used technique for sending left-handed with a right-handed bug. It was commonly used while logging in a contest with the right hand while sending at the same time.

No, you would not do that with a paddle. Turn the paddle around correctly and tell the keyer, "reverse!"

* You can easily increase the weight on a Champion by stacking washers between the screw and the weight. A longer screw may accomodate more washers. Weights on the pre-1930 Lightnings were bigger than after.

* the slowest bug ever made may be the Simplex-Auto. It is a right-angle bug made from 1922 to about 1955 in Australia. It uses a release mechanism like the Mecographs.

slow speeds are useful for learning, but there is a reason bugs are called "speed-keys."

* the vari-speeds, originally made by Hills in the early fifties when they were known as "speed-changers," are terrific for slowing down bugs, especially the older Racers with the U-shaped dampers. On that bug, the vari-speed can be directed straight back, unimpeded by the damper, providing speeds down into the single-digits. Ragardless of slowing them down, they are very convenient for changing speed.

* using a straight key... I think some are using a straight key incorrectly. dots and dashes are NOT made with a muscle expression of the fingers. Place one or two fingers on top of the finger piece, arch the wrist upward off the table, elbow on the table. The code is created with a pumping action of the wrist. High speed dots and dashes are made with a reflexive or spasmadic expression of the tendons, not with any muscle contraction and relaxation which is much too slow and inaccurate. It is the curved wrist and the tension on the tendons that led to carpal-tunnel.

* making dashes with a bug ... I think some are trying to do this with the muscles of the fingers. No, no. Elbow on the table, wrist off the table, swing fromt he wrist or elbow, dashes are made with a spasmadic or reflexive action of the tendons, not muscle contractions which are too slow and too inaccurate.

* controlling a paddle... use the lightest resistance and smallest gap you can handle. This is done with the wrist ont he table and relaxed, the fingers squeezing, barely moving at all. OT's who learned the bug first, often never learn to do this because they swing at it like a bug. works, but not the best.

Good luck!

73, Fred - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 154. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-20 18:51:48 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 142  Message: 154

A bug isn't adjusted like a paddle is. The spacing and swing of the vibrating flat rod must be vigorous enough to engage the return "U" shaped spring which pushed the lever back and causes oscillations.

Remember the Vibroplex was designed to take over from the top speed of the hand key - which is about 23 to 25 wpm - except for a few and remarkably skilled operators who reach 25 to 35 wpm on a hand key.

Progress on a hand key after 20 wpm is agonizingly slow - it is held that the time taken to get from 20 to 21 wpm is TWICE the time it took to get from 19 to 20 wpm. Or simpler - each additional one wpm increase in sending will take twice the effort and time as the previous one wpm increase.

This is a very steep curve.

Adjust the vibrator on your bug so that the contact travel is a half inch from resting position to where it hits the dot contact on the dot contact post. Then adjust the dots so that they are "full" - this will allow the "U" shaped spring to compress and push back. Radio dots were always fuller because of static when compared with the dots on the wire lines of Western Union and others.

73

DR
----- Original Message -----
From: n6vl
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 20, 2006 2:16 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: New to group with questions...

David,

My Champion does not goes down to 20 wpm with the single weight it came with. It is somewhere around 23 - 25 wpm comparing a stream of dits with my keyer. Can the Champion get down to 20 wpm with a single weight. It is probably a 0.8 oz weight. Betsy at Vibroplex says that is standard weight it came with. Is moving the weight the only way to set the speed? Do any of the other adjustments affect speed? I would love for it to get down to 20 wpm without any changes like the Vari-Speed. Maybe an additional 1 oz weight will work.

I have found a temporary method to slow down the bug. I put a mending brace on top of the weight using the screw extending the arm.

22 wpm??? I can't make dashes fast enough for that speed.

For now I am sticking to the straight key. Picked up a Bencher RJ-1. It has a manufacturing flaw. The bearings bind if the pivot housing is bolted snuggly to the base. Loosening 1 of the 4 screws fixes the problem. Once I figured it out, the key is smooth as silk. Too bad, because I will have to send it in for service. Obviously there was a machining defect. Otherwise I like the RJ-1 much better than the Speed-X.

If I could get the dashes down pat, I think I'll like the bug. Once I found the binding problem in the RJ-1, dashes are a lot easier to send. I am sure the bug needs proper adjustment, and practice of course.

73,

Steve N6VL

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.25/593 - Release Date: 12/19/2006
1:17 PM

# 155. Re: New to group with questions...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-21 03:30:23 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 142  Message: 155

David,

What do you mean by the U shaped spring? Is it the little piece with a contact one and bolted to the vibrating arm on the other end?

Gosh, the contact moves half and inch! I do have it real close.

Is there any reason why I would not want to use a bug below 20 wpm? I can use the hand key up to about 15 wpm or so right now and can probably go faster.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 156. Happy Holidays from warm & sunny Florida!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-21 17:09:42 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 156  Message: 156

Happy Holidays to all of my ham radio friends on the CW_Bugs List !

73,

Frank N. Haas KB4T
SKCC 981C/Centurion 31
A1-Op RCC BPL
FISTS 10283
SOC 706
ARS 1862
FP 881
WRRL 127

# 157. On becoming a Volunteer Examiner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-21 16:27:46 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 157  Message: 157

Let me tell a short story.

Years ago, when the VE program was in its infancy, the club I was a member of at the time was putting together a VE team. I was present at the meeting, and at the time, one requirement to be a VE was to have the Amateur Extra license. At the time, I held an Advanced class license, but I volunteered to help anyway. I had in mind that perhaps I could help with announcements, paperwork, or whatever. In other words, I was just offering to help, if I could.

You should have heard the screaming! "YOU HAVE TO BE AN EXTRA!!!" And the loudest one was, at the time, a Technician. (Guess he wanted to make sure the new VE team didn't get any help.)

Because of that, I never took part in any VE program in any way whatsoever, until this past summer, when I finally upgraded to Extra. These people completely soured me on the whole idea.

Now, some 20 years later, I have seen several emails on these lists in which the writer is planning to turn in his VE credentials and send a letter telling the ARRL what the writer thinks of them due to the ending of the CW requirement for amateur radio licensees. This is disappointing, to say the least. If enough people do this, it will mean the end of amateur radio, and a lot quicker than any conspiracy that people think might be out there. I wish these people would reconsider.

I came to a decision last night that I am going to take on the Obligation of becoming a VE.

Folks, without VE's, there will be no amateur radio. Let's not help ANYBODY end our great hobby and service.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 158. Re: [skcc] On becoming a Volunteer Examiner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-26 01:23:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 157  Message: 158

At 09:27 AM 12/21/2006, I wrote:

><snip>
> I came to a decision last night that I am going to take on
>the Obligation of becoming a VE.

I dropped the paperwork into the mailbox this morning. Now
for the REAL learning experience... :-)

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 159. New Year's Eve

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-26 19:37:15 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 159  Message: 159

Don't forget that New Year's Eve has a tradition of saying good-bye to the old year with nostalgia. For radio operators that means older mechanical keys and equipment In addition to those using straight keys you will find many using antique bugs.

If you are so inclined, look for bug activity around 14.025, 7.025, and 3.525.

Have fun. That's what it is all about.

73, Fred KT5X

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 160. RE: [cw_bugs] New Year's Eve

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-26 17:52:04 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 159  Message: 160

Listen for K1Y, the Straight Key Century Club Special Event callsign starting during SKN and working throughout the month from each call district. SKN marks the first anniversary of SKCC.

Also, please submit your entries for SKN to the ARRL. Last year they reported they broke a record with only 300+ contacts. We need to blow the roof off that record this year!

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of KT5X
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2006 2:37 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] New Year's Eve

Don't forget that New Year's Eve has a tradition of saying good-bye to the old year with nostalgia. For radio operators that means older mechanical keys and equipment In addition to those using straight keys you will find many using antique bugs.

If you are so inclined, look for bug activity around 14.025, 7.025, and 3.525.

Have fun. That's what it is all about.

73, Fred KT5X

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.15.28/604 - Release Date: 12/26/2006 12:23 PM

# 161. Re: [cw_bugs] New Year's Eve

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2006-12-27 05:24:29 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 159  Message: 161

At 12:37 PM 12/26/2006, KT5X wrote:

>Don't forget that New Year's Eve has a tradition of saying good-bye
>to the old year with nostalgia. For radio operators that means older
>mechanical keys and equipment In addition to those using straight
>keys you will find many using antique bugs.
>
>If you are so inclined, look for bug activity around 14.025, 7.025, and 3.525.
>
>Have fun. That's what it is all about.
>
>73, Fred KT5X

Fred, thanks so much for those frequencies!

I've never operated SKN before, and I had imagined just
tuning around to see who I could find. Having set frequencies should
make it a lot easier.

I plan to use my 1956 Presentation and perhaps my new LTA
SKCC key, if it arrives in time. That's starting to look doubtful --
DHL says it's been in Aurora, Colorado for a week!.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 162. skn

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-01 19:05:13 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 162  Message: 162

Nice bug QSO's with K8MFO, N0SS, KF7E, K2UFT, N5KA, and others...

K8MFO and I both used a Standard Radio Co bug, for a first two-way for each of us. Don said he had never used his on the air, and was delighted by its very nice feel.

HNY,

Fred - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 163. Re: [cw_bugs] skn

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-01 21:36:37 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 162  Message: 163

At 12:05 PM 1/1/2007, KT5X wrote:

>Nice bug QSO's with K8MFO, N0SS, KF7E, K2UFT, N5KA, and others...
>
>K8MFO and I both used a Standard Radio Co bug, for a first two-way
>for each of us. Don said he had never used his on the air, and was
>delighted by its very nice feel.
>
>HNY,
>
>Fred - kt5x

I worked W9KGY, using my '56 Presentation and had a nice
long chat. He's been a ham since the '40's! Quite a lot of fun.

I think I'm going to try for one more before midnight UTC --
where you at, Fred?

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 164. Re: skn

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-01 23:17:47 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 162  Message: 164

I heard you both just when you started. Don was loud and you were weak here, but I could break in to wish you both HNY which I'll do now.

Hope you have a great year - QSP to Don if you hear him - I've not heard him for a while and I'm sorry I missed his QSO last night.

73

David N1EA

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "KT5X" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Nice bug QSO's with K8MFO, N0SS, KF7E, K2UFT, N5KA, and others...
>
> K8MFO and I both used a Standard Radio Co bug, for a first two-way for each of us. Don said he had never used his on the air, and was delighted by its very nice feel.
>
> HNY,
>
> Fred - kt5x
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 165. I don't believe it!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-03 18:41:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 165  Message: 165

I'm rolling around on the floor laughing at the picture on
the case for this bug!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=180070688512

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 166. New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-03 20:16:14 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 166  Message: 166

Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are making another run up to serial number 500.

I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.

I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my first set of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send with a bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.
73 NT9K - Bill
http://www.nt9k.com

# 167. Re: [cw_bugs] New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-03 20:54:21 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 166  Message: 167

At 01:16 PM 1/3/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
>Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
>Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the
>Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be
>getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are
>making another run up to serial number 500.

That's sure a pretty one! Maybe next time I'll get a new
one. The newest bug I have was made in 1953! :-)

>I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number
>that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next
>batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.
>
>I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my first set
>of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send with a
>bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.

That's funny!

Seriously, I looked at your web site, and it looks like
you've used paddles. I hope I'm not alone in this experience -- but
I feel like a bug is similar to using paddles, just that you need a
bit more movement than with paddles. Once I had mine adjusted, I
found I can send with it acceptable, but it's REAL easy to get too
fast with it, HI!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 168. Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 00:29:29 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 166  Message: 168

I've never used the paddles on the air. I've been using them to warm up for my straight key, get my timing in sync, my mojo working. hi

I was looking at 3 different bugs, the LTA-GMSO, the Blue Racer 2k and the 100th Annibug. I couldn't find any info on the LTA other than it sure would look sweet sitting next to my new skcc str key.

What's the difference between a bug with jeweled movements vs. one without? Is there a huge difference? Bill - NT9K

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 01:16 PM 1/3/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
> >Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
> >Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the
> >Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be
> >getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are
> >making another run up to serial number 500.
>
> That's sure a pretty one! Maybe next time I'll get a new
> one. The newest bug I have was made in 1953! :-)
>
> >I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number
> >that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next
> >batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.
> >
> >I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my first set
> >of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send with a
> >bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.
>
> That's funny!
>
> Seriously, I looked at your web site, and it looks like
> you've used paddles. I hope I'm not alone in this experience -- but
> I feel like a bug is similar to using paddles, just that you need a
> bit more movement than with paddles. Once I had mine adjusted, I
> found I can send with it acceptable, but it's REAL easy to get too
> fast with it, HI!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> "Just say NO to DHL"

>

# 169. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 01:00:31 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 166  Message: 169

Bill,

Jeweled bearings are supposed to be better at higher speeds. I think Betsy
told me over 30 wpm they would be of benefit.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 1/3/07, nt9k_skcc <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
>
> I've never used the paddles on the air. I've been using them to warm
> up for my straight key, get my timing in sync, my mojo working. hi
>
> I was looking at 3 different bugs, the LTA-GMSO, the Blue Racer 2k and
> the 100th Annibug. I couldn't find any info on the LTA other than it
> sure would look sweet sitting next to my new skcc str key.
>
> What's the difference between a bug with jeweled movements vs. one
> without? Is there a huge difference? Bill - NT9K
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, Earl Needham
> <needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> > At 01:16 PM 1/3/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
> > >Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
> > >Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the
> > >Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be
> > >getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are
> > >making another run up to serial number 500.
> >
> > That's sure a pretty one! Maybe next time I'll get a new
> > one. The newest bug I have was made in 1953! :-)
> >
> > >I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number
> > >that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next
> > >batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.
> > >
> > >I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my first set
> > >of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send with a
> > >bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.
> >
> > That's funny!
> >
> > Seriously, I looked at your web site, and it looks like
> > you've used paddles. I hope I'm not alone in this experience -- but
> > I feel like a bug is similar to using paddles, just that you need a

> > bit more movement than with paddles. Once I had mine adjusted, I
> > found I can send with it acceptable, but it's REAL easy to get too
> > fast with it, HI!
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB
> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > "Just say NO to DHL"
> >
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 170. Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 01:16:37 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 166  Message: 170

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Donald Kemp" <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> Bill,
>
> Jeweled bearings are supposed to be better at higher speeds. I think
Betsy
> told me over 30 wpm they would be of benefit.
>

Guess I don't have to worry about jeweled bearings, then! :)

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 171. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 01:30:02 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 166  Message: 171

Think ahead. I'd say if the few extra bucks don't shock you go for the jeweled bearings. Any key is a joy, a smooth-feeling key is ecstasy.

When I buy keys I always look at things like bearing type and return type (spring/magnetic). The better the key works the less I think about it and the more I concentrate on and enjoy the QSOs with it.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Larry
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2007 8:17 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: New to cw_bug group

Guess I don't have to worry about jeweled bearings, then! :)

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 172. Re: I don't believe it!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 01:42:03 UTC
From: nothingechoes
Topic: 165  Message: 172

HAHA!! Thats great! It would be worth getting in on the bidding for
that. Nice bug too!
Goes to show that old telegraphers had long hours. :-)

73...Adam, N7YA
SKCC #410
collector

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> I'm rolling around on the floor laughing at the picture on
> the case for this bug!
>
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?
ViewItem&item=180070688512
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> "Just say NO to DHL"
>

# 173. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 06:00:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 166  Message: 173

In a bug with a jeweled movement, there are little cups that have a synthetic jewel in them instead of being just a hollowed out cup of metal.

Interestingly the Blue Racer 2K "Standard" finish has a jewled movement - and I believe the 100th Anniversary Bug does also.

Both types work well - the jeweled movement can be broken by crushing the jewel by too much pressure on it - (that's why there is no top adjusting screw like the standard movement.

The Blue Racer 2K has standard full sized Original hardware (unlike the older Blue Racers which had miniature hardware). The blue color is nice. The base is the narrow 2-1/2 inch wide base.

I like the full size base because it is more stable.

But I love the blue color - so it is a toss up which I'd buy - probably the 100th anniversary key!

73
David N1EA

On 1/4/07, nt9k_skcc <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
>
> I've never used the paddles on the air. I've been using them to warm
> up for my straight key, get my timing in sync, my mojo working. hi
>
> I was looking at 3 different bugs, the LTA-GMSO, the Blue Racer 2k and
> the 100th Annibug. I couldn't find any info on the LTA other than it
> sure would look sweet sitting next to my new skcc str key.
>
> What's the difference between a bug with jeweled movements vs. one
> without? Is there a huge difference? Bill - NT9K
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, Earl Needham
> <needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> > At 01:16 PM 1/3/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
> > >Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
> > >Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the
> > >Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be
> > >getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are
> > >making another run up to serial number 500.
> >
> > That's sure a pretty one! Maybe next time I'll get a new
> > one. The newest bug I have was made in 1953! :-)
> >

> > >I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number
> > >that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next
> > >batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.
> > >
> > >I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my first set
> > >of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send with a
> > >bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.
> >
> > That's funny!
> >
> > Seriously, I looked at your web site, and it looks like
> > you've used paddles. I hope I'm not alone in this experience -- but
> > I feel like a bug is similar to using paddles, just that you need a
> > bit more movement than with paddles. Once I had mine adjusted, I
> > found I can send with it acceptable, but it's REAL easy to get too
> > fast with it, HI!
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB
> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > "Just say NO to DHL"
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 174. Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 09:25:53 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 166  Message: 174

Thanks for the explaination David. The 100th anniebug doesn't have the jeweled movements but the Blue Racer 2k does. That was bugging me, pardon the pun. In the end it was the size and weight of the base that made up my mind.

Anybody got any info on the LTA-GMSO bug? The website doesn't even tell the size of the base. It looks the same size as the LTA-SKCC? I asked Marshall and he couldn't tell me?

73 Bill - NT9K
http://www.nt9k.com

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> In a bug with a jeweled movement, there are little cups that have a
> synthetic jewel in them instead of being just a hollowed out cup of
metal.
>
> Interestingly the Blue Racer 2K "Standard" finish has a jewled
movement -
> and I believe the 100th Anniversary Bug does also.
>
> Both types work well - the jeweled movement can be broken by
crushing the
> jewel by too much pressure on it - (that's why there is no top adjusting
> screw like the standard movement.
>
> The Blue Racer 2K has standard full sized Original hardware (unlike the
> older Blue Racers which had miniature hardware). The blue color is
nice.
> The base is the narrow 2-1/2 inch wide base.
>
> I like the full size base because it is more stable.
>
> But I love the blue color - so it is a toss up which I'd buy -
probably the
> 100th anniversary key!
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
> On 1/4/07, nt9k_skcc <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
> >
> > I've never used the paddles on the air. I've been using them to warm
> > up for my straight key, get my timing in sync, my mojo working. hi

> >
> > I was looking at 3 different bugs, the LTA-GMSO, the Blue Racer 2k and
> > the 100th Annibug. I couldn't find any info on the LTA other than it
> > sure would look sweet sitting next to my new skcc str key.
> >
> > What's the difference between a bug with jeweled movements vs. one
> > without? Is there a huge difference? Bill - NT9K
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, Earl
Needham
> > <needhame1@> wrote:
> > >
> > > At 01:16 PM 1/3/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
> > > >Hi All, this is my first post to the group.
> > > >Yesterday, I backordered my first bug. My elmers helped me pick the
> > > >Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug. When I called I thought I might be
> > > >getting one of the last of the 250 made, but they told me they are
> > > >making another run up to serial number 500.
> > >
> > > That's sure a pretty one! Maybe next time I'll get a new
> > > one. The newest bug I have was made in 1953! :-)
> > >
> > > >I thought it was pretty cool to be able to choose the serial number
> > > >that I wanted. I picked 263, the month and yr I was born. The next
> > > >batch is supposed to due in abt 2 weeks.
> > > >
> > > >I've never tried a bug. 30+ yrs with a str key. I bought my
first set
> > > >of paddles a few months ago but now want to learn how to send
with a
> > > >bug. I look forward to torturing you all while I learn.
> > >
> > > That's funny!
> > >
> > > Seriously, I looked at your web site, and it looks like
> > > you've used paddles. I hope I'm not alone in this experience -- but
> > > I feel like a bug is similar to using paddles, just that you need a
> > > bit more movement than with paddles. Once I had mine adjusted, I
> > > found I can send with it acceptable, but it's REAL easy to get too
> > > fast with it, HI!
> > >
> > > 7 3
> > > Earl
> > >
> > > KD5XB
> > > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > > "Just say NO to DHL"
> >
>

>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 175. jewel movement bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 19:19:51 UTC
From: KT5X
Topic: 175  Message: 175

>What's the difference between a bug with jeweled movements vs. one
>without? Is there a huge difference? Bill - NT9K

The jewel movement may be smoother, in practice may not be noticable.

The older jewels were garnets, the new ones are artificial rubies. The garnets have a greater tendency to shatter.

The pros did not like the jewel movement. If the jewel shattered, the key was out of service until a replacement could be had.

The first jewel movement keys had a top of the frame adjustment, but since this could be fussed with by a Lid, it was eliminated to reduce the incidence of shattered jewels. What you see on the newer ones is a platic insert that is not functional.

if bidding upon older deluxe keys, one wants to ask that the jewels be checked. Replacements are not free.

73,

Fred - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 176. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New to cw_bug group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-04 15:46:18 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 166  Message: 176

Bill,
Though the anniebug does not have the jeweled movement, you CAN have Betsy add that to your key for a nominal charge.

73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 1/4/2007 1:27:38 A.M. Pacific Standard Time, nt9k_skcc@... writes:

Thanks for the explaination David. The 100th anniebug doesn't have the jeweled movements but the Blue Racer 2k does. That was bugging me, pardon the pun. In the end it was the size and weight of the base that made up my mind.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 177. My first post.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-06 05:01:59 UTC
From: eric995us
Topic: 177  Message: 177

I'm Eric, WB6TIX. I'm 46 and have been licensed since 1972--back then I was WN6TIX...

I have three bugs, and will probably keep my collection at that level. This is because I don't have the room to get more bugs and I can only send with one bug at a time anyway.

I got bug nubmer 1, a Skillman, during the latter half of my novice career in exchange for helping to move some power supplies. It was the perfect bug for a somewhat experienced novice as it would work between about 13 and 25wpm. I still use it on my Eico 723. The plastic cover is a great thing when trying to key a cathode keyed transmitter! This key is number two on my favorite list.

Bug number 2 is an a Vibroplex Original from the mid 1960s. It is my favorite bug. I bought it in the early 80s. This key works as low as 18wpm and its top speed exceeds what I can handle. I got this key to replace a Blue Racer that got squashed when my car was struck by an uninsured drunk driver.

I recently bought bug number 3. It is a 1950 Blue Racer. Since my first one was killed, I've always wanted another. Even though it looks like my first Racer, it has a very differnt personality--sort of like the twin sisters I knew in college. :-)

My first Blue Racer would slow down to about 20wpm and didn't need to be readjusted as I increased its speed. This "newer" one won't go below about 30-35wpm. Heavier weights and "slow the bug down" devices do slow it down, but they seem to make it "very moody". Changing speeds, even by a small amount, requires some minor readjustments to make it sound right again.

Eric

# 178. Re: [cw_bugs] My first post.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-06 07:09:14 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 177  Message: 178

Hello Eric,

20 wpm bottom speed on a Blue Racer is quite unusual. I have never seen a BR (original type on a 2-1/2 inch base with the minature parts and vibrator).

You will find that the Blue Racer usually needs to have the dot side opened up so that the lever travels quite a bit - this should make the key a more stable and usable - it will also decrease the minimum speed (as it will on all bugs.)

An Original has a speed range of about this:

XX XX ------------------------------

On 1/6/07, eric995us <elawson@...> wrote:
>
> I'm Eric, WB6TIX. I'm 46 and have been licensed since 1972--back
> then I was WN6TIX...
>
> I have three bugs, and will probably keep my collection at that
> level. This is because I don't have the room to get more bugs and I
> can only send with one bug at a time anyway.
>
> I got bug nubmer 1, a Skillman, during the latter half of my novice
> career in exchange for helping to move some power supplies. It was
> the perfect bug for a somewhat experienced novice as it would work
> between about 13 and 25wpm. I still use it on my Eico 723. The
> plastic cover is a great thing when trying to key a cathode keyed
> transmitter! This key is number two on my favorite list.
>
> Bug number 2 is an a Vibroplex Original from the mid 1960s. It is
> my favorite bug. I bought it in the early 80s. This key works as
> low as 18wpm and its top speed exceeds what I can handle. I got
> this key to replace a Blue Racer that got squashed when my car was
> struck by an uninsured drunk driver.
>
> I recently bought bug number 3. It is a 1950 Blue Racer. Since my
> first one was killed, I've always wanted another. Even though it
> looks like my first Racer, it has a very differnt personality--sort
> of like the twin sisters I knew in college. :-)
>
> My first Blue Racer would slow down to about 20wpm and didn't need
> to be readjusted as I increased its speed. This "newer" one won't
> go below about 30-35wpm. Heavier weights and "slow the bug down"
> devices do slow it down, but they seem to make it "very moody".

> Changing speeds, even by a small amount, requires some minor
> readjustments to make it sound right again.
>
> Eric
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 179. Re: [cw_bugs] My first post.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-06 07:19:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 177  Message: 179

By varying the two standard small weights , an Original has a speed range of about this:

```
XX XX -----------------------------

20 wpm

XX --------------------------------XX
23 wpm

---------------XX------------------XX
25 wpm

--------------------------------XX XX
27 wpm

XX --------------------------------

30 wpm

--- ------------XX--------------------
33 wpm

-------------------------------------XX
35 wpm
```

Try calibrating your own bug!

73

David N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 180. now bug calibation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-07 04:57:50 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 177  Message: 180

On Sat, 6 Jan 2007, David Ring wrote:

(snip)
> Try calibrating your own bug!

(snip)

I'll have to try that.

Along those lines, one day when I was bored beyond belief, I interfaced my bug to a computer and drove the code practice oscillator from the computer. I suddenly realized I could time the key transitions, so I collected data on about 15 minutes of my sending. From there it got interesting. By using Excel to slice and dice the data, I could examine any part of my fist.

It was a real eye opener. And, if I wanted to be on TV, I could send this to Dr. Phill! :-) Who else but a person needing lots of help would calculate the mean and standard deviation of; dash length, the time between dots and dashes, or time time between dashes?

Eric

# 181. Hello All

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-12 21:28:56 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 181  Message: 181

My name is Vince VA3GRV, I enjoy CW very much. I passed my CW exam Feb. 2006, got away from it for a bit, gave phone a try, now I'm back.
CW is now my favourite mode. Working hard on my speed of copying.
I am also interested in starting to slowly pick up CW keys here and there.
Thanks for the read.

73 Vince

# 182. Re: [cw_bugs] On becoming a Volunteer Examiner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 02:29:10 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 157  Message: 182

At 09:27 AM 12/21/2006, I wrote:

><snip>
>I came to a decision last night that I am going to take on
>the Obligation of becoming a VE.

It's official -- I just received the credential as a VE.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 183. comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 16:59:39 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 157  Message: 183

Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a new Ham, I would teach him the Morse code<the same way my elmer did with me>, some of them jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be right but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are willing to be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown hows to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall asking some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my station. No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems like its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.

Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1

---
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261,
6581851894
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
---

---
Bored stiff? Loosen up...
Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 184. Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 17:24:11 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 157  Message: 184

--- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5 years,and I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my #1 mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to me, sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do try too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever I can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old, play around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle. She had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So what I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what you feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)

73 Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines" <n6hpx_du1@...> wrote:
>
> Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a new Ham, I would teach him the Morse code<the same way my elmer did with me>, some of them jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be right but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are willing to be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown hows to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall asking some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my station. No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems like its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910

> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 185. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 17:35:59 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 157  Message: 185

Thanks Vince I know the others with the PSK may think its a better mode but when I asked a few years ago how to set one up, I was trying out digipan at the time, never had a single taker. And yet when I mentioned showing a new ham how to learn Morse I had all sorts of comments about how wrong that was..seems like the days of Real Elmers have gone away. I remember mine telling me how to learn it and to gain it in speed even without going on the airwaves. Didnt take that long for me, and I worked 13 hour days 5 days a week and still found the time.
I guess I had one of those dedicated Elmer's who really wanted to help and dint mind the critics..and it worked passed the 5 and the 13 wpm 26 years ago. But ask a guy/gal to show you how to set up a PSK system and you get less to help out..wonder where they all went. Reading a book is one thing but when you need advice they seem to disappear.

Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1

ps: we weren't the last one to drop the morse requirements the Philippines still does it..

Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
--- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5 years,and
I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my #1
mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to me,
sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do try
too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever I
can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old, play
around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle. She
had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So what
I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what you
feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)

73 Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
wrote:
>
> Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a
new Ham, I would teach him the Morse codewith me>, some of them jumped my idea saying it
was wrong. He thinks
the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be right
but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are willing to
be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown hows
to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall asking
some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my station.
No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems like
its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>

>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261,
6581851894
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
_____

---
Any questions? Get answers on any topic at Yahoo! Answers. Try it now.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 186. Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 18:25:30 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 157  Message: 186

---
Well Larry if I knew anything about it I'd be happy to let you know,That is what I feel this hobby is about, hams helping others anyway they can.I am not overly seasoned with ham know how but I have quite a few connections, and in a little while I may have the answer.Another example I was on CW Communicator last night, I helped another ham out on there that was having problems with his key connection. I gave him some advice, also my email.He was very happy with my help. That is what I like to do.

73 Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines" <n6hpx_du1@...> wrote:
>
> Thanks Vince I know the others with the PSK may think its a better mode but when I asked a few years ago how to set one up, I was trying out digipan at the time, never had a single taker. And yet when I mentioned showing a new ham how to learn Morse I had all sorts of comments about how wrong that was..seems like the days of Real Elmers have gone away. I remember mine telling me how to learn it and to gain it in speed even without going on the airwaves. Didnt take that long for me, and I worked 13 hour days 5 days a week and still found the time.
> I guess I had one of those dedicated Elmer's who really wanted to help and dint mind the critics..and it worked passed the 5 and the 13 wpm 26 years ago. But ask a guy/gal to show you how to set up a PSK system and you get less to help out..wonder where they all went. Reading a book is one thing but when you need advice they seem to disappear.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>
> ps: we weren't the last one to drop the morse requirements the Philippines still does it..
>
> Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
> --- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5 years,and
> I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my #1
> mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to me,
> sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do try
> too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever I
> can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old, play

> around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle.
She
> had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So
what
> I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what you
> feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)
>
> 73 Vince
>
>
>
>
>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:
> >
> > Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a
> new Ham, I would teach him the Morse codewith me>, some of them
jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks
> the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be right
> but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are willing
to
> be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown
hows
> to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall
asking
> some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my
station.
> No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems like
> its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
> >
> > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910

> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >
> > ---
> > Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> > Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Any questions? Get answers on any topic at Yahoo! Answers. Try it
now.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 187. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 18:43:37 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 157  Message: 187

That is how I feel about the hobby as well, were all suppose to be Elmer's per say, and if a fellow has a problem he can either help him or direct him to one's that do. One guy on the ehams group posted how little I asked for help on PSK and I told him that Ehams is not the only group to turn to for info, the best source I feel is to have a fellow in your area that is willing to sit down and show you how to do it and where to turn to for help.
Thats what I liked about my Elmer and my brother's elmer he came by after we were all licensed and showed us how to setup the radio's and the how to install things like the antennas. It made it a fun part learning. In my Job I will probably have to rely on hams I know in my travels or contact one's closer to home, like DU1EV who might know a ham into the PSK.
I love the Hobby and want to progress into everything that is part of the Hobby...my friend Thelma worked with Rtty so might have to ask her to see how she workd it and what gear she used.

Thanks for the input and will keep on plugging along

Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1

Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
---
Well Larry if I knew anything about it I'd be happy to let you know,That is what I feel this hobby is about, hams helping others anyway they can.I am not overly seasoned with ham know how but I have quite a few connections, and in a little while I may have the answer.Another example I was on CW Communicator last night, I helped another ham out on there that was having problems with his key connection. I gave him some advice, also my email.He was very happy with my help. That is what I like to do.

73 Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines" wrote:
>
> Thanks Vince I know the others with the PSK may think its a better mode but when I asked a few years ago how to set one up, I was trying out digipan at the time, never had a single taker. And yet when I mentioned showing a new ham how to learn Morse I had all sorts of comments about how wrong that was..seems like the days of Real Elmers have gone away. I remember mine telling me how to learn it and to gain it in speed even without going on the airwaves. Didnt take that long for me, and I worked 13 hour days 5 days a week and still found the time.
> I guess I had one of those dedicated Elmer's who really wanted to help and dint mind the critics..and it worked passed the 5 and the 13 wpm 26 years ago. But ask a guy/gal to show you how to set up a

PSK system and you get less to help out..wonder where they all went.
Reading a book is one thing but when you need advice they seem to
disappear.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>
> ps: we weren't the last one to drop the morse requirements the
Philippines still does it..
>
> Vince wrote:
> --- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5
years,and
> I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my #1
> mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to
me,
> sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do try
> too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever I
> can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old, play
> around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle.
She
> had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So
what
> I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what you
> feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)
>
> 73 Vince
>
>
>
>
>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:
> >
> > Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a
> new Ham, I would teach him the Morse codewith me>, some of them
jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks
> the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be right
> but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are willing
to
> be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown
hows
> to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall
asking
> some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my
station.
> No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems like
> its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
> >

> > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >
> > ---
> > Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> > Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740

> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Any questions? Get answers on any topic at Yahoo! Answers. Try it
now.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261,
6581851894
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
_____

---
Don't get soaked. Take a quick peak at the forecast
with theYahoo! Search weather shortcut.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 188. Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 19:59:04 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 157  Message: 188

---
Larry, are there any groups that are devoted to those modes ?

Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
<n6hpx_du1@...> wrote:
>
> That is how I feel about the hobby as well, were all suppose to
be Elmer's per say, and if a fellow has a problem he can either help
him or direct him to one's that do. One guy on the ehams group posted
how little I asked for help on PSK and I told him that Ehams is not
the only group to turn to for info, the best source I feel is to have
a fellow in your area that is willing to sit down and show you how to
do it and where to turn to for help.
> Thats what I liked about my Elmer and my brother's elmer he
came by after we were all licensed and showed us how to setup the
radio's and the how to install things like the antennas. It made it a
fun part learning. In my Job I will probably have to rely on hams I
know in my travels or contact one's closer to home, like DU1EV who
might know a ham into the PSK.
> I love the Hobby and want to progress into everything that
is part of the Hobby...my friend Thelma worked with Rtty so might
have to ask her to see how she workd it and what gear she used.
>
> Thanks for the input and will keep on plugging along
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>
> Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
> ---
> Well Larry if I knew anything about it I'd be happy to let you
> know,That is what I feel this hobby is about, hams helping others
> anyway they can.I am not overly seasoned with ham know how but I
have
> quite a few connections, and in a little while I may have the
> answer.Another example I was on CW Communicator last night, I
helped
> another ham out on there that was having problems with his key
> connection. I gave him some advice, also my email.He was very happy
> with my help. That is what I like to do.
>
> 73 Vince
>
>

>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:
> >
> > Thanks Vince I know the others with the PSK may think its a
> better mode but when I asked a few years ago how to set one up, I
was
> trying out digipan at the time, never had a single taker. And yet
> when I mentioned showing a new ham how to learn Morse I had all
sorts
> of comments about how wrong that was..seems like the days of Real
> Elmers have gone away. I remember mine telling me how to learn it
and
> to gain it in speed even without going on the airwaves. Didnt take
> that long for me, and I worked 13 hour days 5 days a week and still
> found the time.
> > I guess I had one of those dedicated Elmer's who really wanted
> to help and dint mind the critics..and it worked passed the 5 and
the
> 13 wpm 26 years ago. But ask a guy/gal to show you how to set up a
> PSK system and you get less to help out..wonder where they all
went.
> Reading a book is one thing but when you need advice they seem to
> disappear.
> >
> > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> >
> > ps: we weren't the last one to drop the morse requirements the
> Philippines still does it..
> >
> > Vince wrote:
> > --- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5
> years,and
> > I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my
#1
> > mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to
> me,
> > sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do
try
> > too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever
I
> > can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old,
play
> > around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle.
> She
> > had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So
> what
> > I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what
you

> > feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)
> >
> > 73 Vince
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> > wrote:
> > >
> > > Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a
> > new Ham, I would teach him the Morse codewith me>, some of them
> jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks
> > the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be
right
> > but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are
willing
> to
> > be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown
> hows
> > to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall
> asking
> > some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my
> station.
> > No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems
like
> > its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
> > >
> > > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > _____
> > > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > > 6581851894
> > > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > > monitoring:
> > > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > >

_____
> > >
> > > ---
> > > Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> > > Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
> > >
> > > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> > >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >
> > ---
> > Any questions? Get answers on any topic at Yahoo! Answers. Try it
> now.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>

>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Don't get soaked. Take a quick peak at the forecast
> with theYahoo! Search weather shortcut.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 189. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: comment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-14 22:51:29 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 157  Message: 189

Been away from the computer..yes there is like MixW and digipan and some others and there quite good in comments like on here, but as with every group you need a person close by you can turn to to see what your doing wrong, for example I always hear about this so called waterfall and never could figure what part of the screen there talking about, I did manage to down load a picture of it, but if it wasnt for that picture I would never have found it on my own.
Unlike the old days when you had a local ham to turn to. There is a group here in San Diego that is planning on having a demo on PSK but I might not be able to attend as I am subject to being deployed to a ship at any time. Work for Uncle but not Navy..

Thanks again,

\ Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1

Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
---
Larry, are there any groups that are devoted to those modes ?

Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
wrote:
>
> That is how I feel about the hobby as well, were all suppose to
be Elmer's per say, and if a fellow has a problem he can either help
him or direct him to one's that do. One guy on the ehams group posted
how little I asked for help on PSK and I told him that Ehams is not
the only group to turn to for info, the best source I feel is to have
a fellow in your area that is willing to sit down and show you how to
do it and where to turn to for help.
> Thats what I liked about my Elmer and my brother's elmer he
came by after we were all licensed and showed us how to setup the
radio's and the how to install things like the antennas. It made it a
fun part learning. In my Job I will probably have to rely on hams I
know in my travels or contact one's closer to home, like DU1EV who
might know a ham into the PSK.
> I love the Hobby and want to progress into everything that
is part of the Hobby...my friend Thelma worked with Rtty so might
have to ask her to see how she workd it and what gear she used.
>
> Thanks for the input and will keep on plugging along
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
>
> Vince wrote:
> ---

> Well Larry if I knew anything about it I'd be happy to let you
> know,That is what I feel this hobby is about, hams helping others
> anyway they can.I am not overly seasoned with ham know how but I
have
> quite a few connections, and in a little while I may have the
> answer.Another example I was on CW Communicator last night, I
helped
> another ham out on there that was having problems with his key
> connection. I gave him some advice, also my email.He was very happy
> with my help. That is what I like to do.
>
> 73 Vince
>
>
>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:
> >
> > Thanks Vince I know the others with the PSK may think its a
> better mode but when I asked a few years ago how to set one up, I
was
> trying out digipan at the time, never had a single taker. And yet
> when I mentioned showing a new ham how to learn Morse I had all
sorts
> of comments about how wrong that was..seems like the days of Real
> Elmers have gone away. I remember mine telling me how to learn it
and
> to gain it in speed even without going on the airwaves. Didnt take
> that long for me, and I worked 13 hour days 5 days a week and still
> found the time.
> > I guess I had one of those dedicated Elmer's who really wanted
> to help and dint mind the critics..and it worked passed the 5 and
the
> 13 wpm 26 years ago. But ask a guy/gal to show you how to set up a
> PSK system and you get less to help out..wonder where they all
went.
> Reading a book is one thing but when you need advice they seem to
> disappear.
> >
> > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> >
> > ps: we weren't the last one to drop the morse requirements the
> Philippines still does it..
> >
> > Vince wrote:
> > --- Very Good Larry,I have only been licenced for almost 5
> years,and
> > I don't own a bug, but I do enjoy CW very much it has become my
#1

> > mode.I have several elmers around my area that have been great to
> me,
> > sometimes I think I drive them crazy hihi.Whenever I can, I do
try
> > too spread the interest of ham radio, in particular cw, when ever
I
> > can. It was funny yesterday I let my daughter (10) years old,
play
> > around on the CW Communicator program with my dual lever paddle.
> She
> > had a blast.Future OP. ? Who knows,but she had a lot of fun. So
> what
> > I'm trying to say is I wouldn't change anything Larry, do what
you
> > feel right doing. Hope that makes sense hihi :-)
> >
> > 73 Vince
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> > wrote:
> > >
> > > Last nite I mentioned to a few parties that if I ever met a
> > new Ham, I would teach him the Morse codewith me>, some of them
> jumped my idea saying it was wrong. He thinks
> > the new modes like PSK is the way of the future, he might be
right
> > but in my comment back to him, "how many hams now days are
willing
> to
> > be Elmers and Teach the uses of PSK, the same way we were shown
> hows
> > to use Morse code on the exams, they had no comments. I recall
> asking
> > some in the past to show me how to set up a PSK system on my
> station.
> > No taker's!? is there something about Elmer's now days. Seems
like
> > its gone away. Is it wrong to want to teach the subject.
> > >
> > > Larry Fields,n6hpx/du1
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > _____

> > > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > > 6581851894
> > > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > > monitoring:
> > > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > >
_____
> > >
> > > ---
> > > Bored stiff? Loosen up...
> > > Download and play hundreds of games for free on Yahoo! Games.
> > >
> > > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> > >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >

> > ---------------------------------
> > Any questions? Get answers on any topic at Yahoo! Answers. Try it
> now.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---------------------------------
> Don't get soaked. Take a quick peak at the forecast
> with theYahoo! Search weather shortcut.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261,
6581851894
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475

VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
_____

---
Finding fabulous fares is fun.
Let Yahoo! FareChase search your favorite travel sites to find flight and hotel bargains.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 190. Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-15 16:00:55 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 190  Message: 190

Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having to accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with a lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success is neither required nor time pressued.

In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same word is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one becomes a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their knowledge and skill.

With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.

Have fun with the hobby and CW,

73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 191. Re: [cw_bugs] Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-15 16:18:10 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 190  Message: 191

I agree with you sir, and I mentioned this on another site..unfortunately the anit cw groups flamed my comments..I only mentioned that it wasnt that hard to learn and if they did it the same way my elmer taught me they would have passed the exams as I did on both..

73's from Larry

ps: the philippines still require the 5 wpm morse tests

Trail Fox <KT5X@...> wrote:
Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having to accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with a lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success is neither required nor time pressued.

In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same word is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one becomes a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their knowledge and skill.

With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.

Have fun with the hobby and CW,

73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Yahoo! Groups Links

---
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261,
6581851894
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
---

---
Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and
always stay connected to friends.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 192. Re: Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-15 23:57:21 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 190  Message: 192

---
That goes for me as well, any newcomers or Veterans of CW would like to ragchew on the air or shoot the breeze here, or email or on my group, you are all welcome. I'm still very green when it comes to CW and Keys, but I do enjoy having fun as well as learning.

email va3grv@...

yahoo group
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CWNV/

73 de va3grv ee
Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines" <n6hpx_du1@...> wrote:
>
> I agree with you sir, and I mentioned this on another site..unfortunately the anit cw groups flamed my comments..I only mentioned that it wasnt that hard to learn and if they did it the same way my elmer taught me they would have passed the exams as I did on both..
>
> 73's from Larry
>
> ps: the philippines still require the 5 wpm morse tests
>
> Trail Fox <KT5X@...> wrote:
> Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having to accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with a lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success is neither required nor time pressued.
>
> In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same word is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one becomes a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their knowledge and skill.
>
> With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.

>
> Have fun with the hobby and CW,
>
> 73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> ____________________________________________________________
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____________________________________________________________
>
> ---------------------------------
> Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and
> always stay connected to friends.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 193. January NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-15 23:58:25 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 193  Message: 193

This Wednesday evening (Thursday morning UTC time) will be the NAQCC Sprint for January.

This month, the Sprint will be held on 80, 40 and 20 meters. This month, a special certificate will be given to the operator who gets the highest score while braving the elements out of doors. The Sprint will run from 8:30 to 10:30 PM EST, 7:30 to 9:30 PM CST, 6:30 to 8:30 PM MST and 5:30 to 7:30 PM PST or from 0130 to 0330 UTC on the morning of January 18th. The recommended frequencies are:

80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz)
20M - 14059-14065 kHz.

The exchange is as follows:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members send power level in place of NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

Remember to mention the type of antenna you have used when submitting your log as there will be two separate categories - simple wire antennas and gain antennas, such as yagis, quads and periodics.

Also, remember the bonus multipliers that you get for using either a straight key or bug during the event. All entries must be postmarked or email dated before 2400Z on January 24th, 2006.

For full details, please visit
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200701.html

And to join the NAQCC (if you haven't already!) please go to
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/joinup.html

ALSO !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please don't forget the ongoing NAQCC WAS Bear Hunt. This week we will have Lou W7JI handing out the great state of Kansas to all of you out there who need the Sunflower State for Worked All States. Full information can be found at: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/wasproject.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 194. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-16 00:33:33 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 190  Message: 194

I still wished it had gone the other way on the FCC ruling but I still think the code should still be taught to the many out there. I approached a site mentioning how in the old days you could approach a Elmer to learn the code and the technicial portions on the Radio, but when I mentioned where's the Elmer's when you ask about projects like PSK they had no answer. I laughed as I put out a comment on it and hasd only 1 reply on the forum.
For me any new ham that comes along I will teach it if he wants to be taught and tell him its still part of our ham world,despite what others might say to him.

Larry Fields,n6hpx

Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
---
That goes for me as well, any newcomers or Veterans of CW would like to ragchew on the air or shoot the breeze here, or email or on my group, you are all welcome. I'm still very green when it comes to CW and Keys, but I do enjoy having fun as well as learning.

email va3grv@...

yahoo group
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CWNV/

73 de va3grv ee
Vince

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines" wrote:
>
> I agree with you sir, and I mentioned this on another site..unfortunately the anit cw groups flamed my comments..I only mentioned that it wasnt that hard to learn and if they did it the same way my elmer taught me they would have passed the exams as I did on both..
>
> 73's from Larry
>
> ps: the philippines still require the 5 wpm morse tests
>
> Trail Fox wrote:
> Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having to accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with a lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success is

neither required nor time pressued.
>
> In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same word
is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one becomes
a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling
stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their
knowledge and skill.
>
> With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help
anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask
questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.
>
> Have fun with the hobby and CW,
>
> 73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261,
> 6581851894
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and
> always stay connected to friends.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

Yahoo! Groups Links

---
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261 manila
cell numbers:6581851894 singapore
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario WW2 Antenna Transmit Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:wd6app 145.320 mhz,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,AH2G IRLP 3672
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
---

---
Never miss an email again!
Yahoo! Toolbar alerts you the instant new Mail arrives. Check it out.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 195. key restoration: 1917 Double Lever

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-16 14:32:16 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 195  Message: 195

Restoring severely rusted, damaged, or poorly refinished antique bugs is part of my enjoyment in the old keys. Seen here is the base of a 1917 Double Lever that I recently restored.

The decal is also a replica that I made by restoring, pixel by pixel, a photo of a damaged decal.

Anyone have a basket case they'd like help with?

73, Fred kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 196. Re: [cw_bugs] key restoration: 1917 Double Lever

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-16 20:19:28 UTC
From: john
Topic: 195  Message: 196

Fred,

I would like to see a picture of that 1917 vibroplex. It did not
come through.

John K8LJG

----- Original Message -----
From: Trail Fox
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 9:32 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] key restoration: 1917 Double Lever

Restoring severely rusted, damaged, or poorly refinished antique bugs is part of my enjoyment in the old keys. Seen here is the base of a 1917 Double Lever that I recently restored.

The decal is also a replica that I made by restoring, pixel by pixel, a photo of a damaged decal.

Anyone have a basket case they'd like help with?

73, Fred kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.432 / Virus Database: 268.16.12/631 - Release Date: 1/16/2007 8:25 AM

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 197. Re: Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 02:55:29 UTC
From: Vince
Topic: 190  Message: 197

---I agree 100% Larry, Very Well Said.

73 Vince VA3GRV

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
<n6hpx_du1@...> wrote:
>
> I still wished it had gone the other way on the FCC ruling
but I still think the code should still be taught to the many out
there. I approached a site mentioning how in the old days you could
approach a Elmer to learn the code and the technicial portions on the
Radio, but when I mentioned where's the Elmer's when you ask about
projects like PSK they had no answer. I laughed as I put out a
comment on it and hasd only 1 reply on the forum.
> For me any new ham that comes along I will teach it if he
wants to be taught and tell him its still part of our ham
world,despite what others might say to him.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx
>
> Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
> ---
> That goes for me as well, any newcomers or Veterans of CW would
like
> to ragchew on the air or shoot the breeze here, or email or on my
> group, you are all welcome. I'm still very green when it comes to
CW
> and Keys, but I do enjoy having fun as well as learning.
>
> email va3grv@...
>
> yahoo group
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CWNV/
>
> 73 de va3grv ee
> Vince
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:

> >
> > I agree with you sir, and I mentioned this on another
> site..unfortunately the anit cw groups flamed my comments..I only
> mentioned that it wasnt that hard to learn and if they did it the
> same way my elmer taught me they would have passed the exams as I
did
> on both..
> >
> > 73's from Larry
> >
> > ps: the philippines still require the 5 wpm morse tests
> >
> > Trail Fox wrote:
> > Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to
> accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having
to
> accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with
a
> lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One
> doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes
> replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has
> lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success
is
> neither required nor time pressued.
> >
> > In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same
word
> is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one
becomes
> a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling
> stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their
> knowledge and skill.
> >
> > With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help
> anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask
> questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.
> >
> > Have fun with the hobby and CW,
> >
> > 73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >

> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >
> > ---
> > Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and
> > always stay connected to friends.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261 manila
> cell numbers:6581851894 singapore
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario WW2 Antenna Transmit Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:wd6app 145.320 mhz,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,AH2G IRLP 3672

> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Never miss an email again!
> Yahoo! Toolbar alerts you the instant new Mail arrives. Check it
out.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 198. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Elmering and CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 03:15:23 UTC
From: Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines
Topic: 190  Message: 198

Thanks last nite I went a local meeting on PSK31, which was my first and only so far to see it in action, later on after the meeting I asked a question via the web group, If for example I am on PSK and I come accross a Ham who is non-english and I send a message to him, will he be able to read my message in his language or in mine only, the comment came back that he would not see it in his language,but still in english.

I recall a story of a Ham who was rag chewing with a Ham in <for example germany> and he chatted with this guy everyday, then finally the other party invited him to his place to meet, he did so, when he arrived the party couldn't speak a word of english, and he couldn't speak the other persons language, for the next 4 hours they chatted/rag chewed on the other persons Code keyer.

Wonder where the PSK group would think towards that part, its just like when they came out with Echo Link, how many years before some even accepted it as to many it wasn't real radio, just internet connected.

Weird world we live in now and seems like a step in the worng direction..

Vince <va3grv1@...> wrote:
---I agree 100% Larry, Very Well Said.

73 Vince VA3GRV

In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
wrote:
>
> I still wished it had gone the other way on the FCC ruling
but I still think the code should still be taught to the many out
there. I approached a site mentioning how in the old days you could
approach a Elmer to learn the code and the technicial portions on the
Radio, but when I mentioned where's the Elmer's when you ask about
projects like PSK they had no answer. I laughed as I put out a
comment on it and hasd only 1 reply on the forum.
> For me any new ham that comes along I will teach it if he
wants to be taught and tell him its still part of our ham
world,despite what others might say to him.
>
> Larry Fields,n6hpx
>
> Vince wrote:
> ---
> That goes for me as well, any newcomers or Veterans of CW would
like
> to ragchew on the air or shoot the breeze here, or email or on my
> group, you are all welcome. I'm still very green when it comes to
CW

> and Keys, but I do enjoy having fun as well as learning.
>
> email va3grv@...
>
> yahoo group
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CWNV/
>
> 73 de va3grv ee
> Vince
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry ,n6hpx_du1 Philippines"
> wrote:
> >
> > I agree with you sir, and I mentioned this on another
> site..unfortunately the anit cw groups flamed my comments..I only
> mentioned that it wasnt that hard to learn and if they did it the
> same way my elmer taught me they would have passed the exams as I
did
> on both..
> >
> > 73's from Larry
> >
> > ps: the philippines still require the 5 wpm morse tests
> >
> > Trail Fox wrote:
> > Hobbies are an (adult's way) of playing. An adult needs to
> accomplish something, play is when there is no pressure of having
to
> accomplish something. When fishing nets were invented, fishing with
a
> lure didn't go away. It became a hobby, a challenge, and fun. One
> doesn't have to be successful to have dinner. When digital modes
> replaced CW for essential communication, CW became a hobby. It has
> lost none of its challenge or sense of accomplishment, but success
is
> neither required nor time pressued.
> >
> > In the Tewa language of the New Mexico Pueblo Indian, the same
word
> is used for grandfather, teacher, and story teller. When one
becomes
> a grandfather, one has the responsibility to teach by telling
> stories. Veteran CW ops have the responsibility of sharing their
> knowledge and skill.

> >
> > With 50 years experience CW operating, I will be happy to help
> anyone learn and enjoy CW any way I can. If you want to ask
> questions, or just QSO at any speed, write me an e-mail.
> >
> > Have fun with the hobby and CW,
> >
> > 73, Fred KT5X (W5YA/qrp)
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > _____
> > www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> > http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> > Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> > cell numbers:639064813261,
> > 6581851894
> > Member:ARRL,PARL,
> > 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> > VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario Transmitter Japan
> > monitoring:
> > simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> > repeaters:PALOMAR 146.730,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> > repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,guam 146.910
> > ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> > _____
> >
> > ---
> > Don't be flakey. Get Yahoo! Mail for Mobile and
> > always stay connected to friends.
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

>
>
>
>
>
> _____
> www.qrz.com/n6hpx
> http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
> Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
> cell numbers:639064813261 manila
> cell numbers:6581851894 singapore
> Member:ARRL,PARL,
> 6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
> VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario WW2 Antenna Transmit Japan
> monitoring:
> simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
> repeaters:wd6app 145.320 mhz,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
> repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,AH2G IRLP 3672
> ->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
> _____
>
> ---
> Never miss an email again!
> Yahoo! Toolbar alerts you the instant new Mail arrives. Check it
out.
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
www.qrz.com/n6hpx
http://profiles.yahoo.com/n6hpx_du1
Amatuer Radio station:n6hpx/du1
cell numbers:639064813261 manila
cell numbers:6581851894 singapore
Member:ARRL,PARL,
6mTclub,Pinoyhams,DOS # 475
VISITOR:KTWR,AWR Guam,FEBC Saipan,Hario WW2 Antenna Transmit Japan
monitoring:
simplex:146.520,147.570 mhz,144.740
repeaters:wd6app 145.320 mhz,SANDRA 146.640 mhz
repeaters:dx1L,dx1hb,dx1par,AH2G IRLP 3672
->>>I support morse code testing at 5 wpm on Extra class<<<-
_____

---
Need a quick answer? Get one in minutes from people who know. Ask your question on Yahoo!
Answers.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 199. Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 04:52:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 199

Hello Bugsters,

Can anyone tell me what causes this:

You bug is sounding nice, you see that the dot contact post isn't exactly right so you turn it (or do some other adjustment) then from that moment onward, your dots sound funny.

It isn't the weighting - you can make them heavy or light - they just don't SOUND right - and when you check on the air - others report the same thing also.

I KNOW how to fix it - take the whole bug apart, clean it, and put it together.

But this bug was just totally taken apart, cleaned in ultrasonic bath three times, dried in a 140 F. degree oven for an hour and reassembled.

The contacts were burnished/polished and cleaned - they're mirrors.

Anyone have a guess why this happens? I've been puzzled by this for over 40 years.

73

David N1EA

# 200. RE: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 05:02:01 UTC
From: Kevin der Kinderen
Topic: 199  Message: 200

I wonder about that also.

I wonder... is it better to have two flat pieces of metal hitting each other or have one hit at a bit of an angle? I notice my GHD is a pin on one side and flat contact on the other side.

Try putting a slight angle back in it and let us know if things seem to sound less funny. If the experiment works, I'd be interested in understanding some of the physics behind it.

73,
Kev, K4VD
http://k4vd.net/

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of David Ring
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 11:52 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Hello Bugsters,

Can anyone tell me what causes this:

You bug is sounding nice, you see that the dot contact post isn't exactly right so you turn it (or do some other adjustment) then from that moment onward, your dots sound funny.

It isn't the weighting - you can make them heavy or light - they just don't SOUND right - and when you check on the air - others report the same thing also.

I KNOW how to fix it - take the whole bug apart, clean it, and put it together.

But this bug was just totally taken apart, cleaned in ultrasonic bath three times, dried in a 140 F. degree oven for an hour and reassembled.

The contacts were burnished/polished and cleaned - they're mirrors.

Anyone have a guess why this happens? I've been puzzled by this for over 40 years.

73

David N1EA

# 201. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 13:42:59 UTC
From: Don Pullen
Topic: 199  Message: 201

Your bug is "sounding nice"? If it ain't broke, Don't "fix" it.

Don n3vy

----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 11:52 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Hello Bugsters,

Can anyone tell me what causes this:

You bug is sounding nice, you see that the dot contact post isn't exactly right so you turn it (or do some other adjustment) then from that moment onward, your dots sound funny.

It isn't the weighting - you can make them heavy or light - they just don't SOUND right - and when you check on the air - others report the same thing also.

I KNOW how to fix it - take the whole bug apart, clean it, and put it together.

But this bug was just totally taken apart, cleaned in ultrasonic bath three times, dried in a 140 F. degree oven for an hour and reassembled.

The contacts were burnished/polished and cleaned - they're mirrors.

Anyone have a guess why this happens? I've been puzzled by this for over 40 years.

73

David N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 202. Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 13:52:44 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 199  Message: 202

Well I suppose it is one form or another of "contact bounce." the contacts doa ctually bounce, and also the contacts rub along the face of each other. Modern solid state rigs are so fast, they try to follow it. The older cathode keying could not.

I have had better luck with the post contact at a slight angle, some folks key a mercury wetted vacuum relay, some build a solid-state circuit that won't respond that fast because of a capacitor loading up, but I was reading in my K2 manual, that simply putting a .1 cap across the contacts can be enough to quiet the radio with the less than 1 ms contact bounce.

Good luck, and 73

Fred - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 203. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 14:01:00 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 199  Message: 203

David,

Just for grins put a piece of cotton in the loop of the dot spring.
This will dampen any oscillation that may be causing it if it's the dot
spring.

If that help a small piece of foam could be glued in place of the cotton.

73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36

On 1/17/07, Kevin der Kinderen <kkinderen@...> wrote:
>
> I wonder about that also.
>
> I wonder... is it better to have two flat pieces of metal hitting each
> other
> or have one hit at a bit of an angle? I notice my GHD is a pin on one side
> and flat contact on the other side.
>
> Try putting a slight angle back in it and let us know if things seem to
> sound less funny. If the experiment works, I'd be interested in
> understanding some of the physics behind it.
>
> 73,
> Kev, K4VD
> http://k4vd.net/
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com> [mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>] On Behalf Of
> David Ring
> Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 11:52 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?
>
> Hello Bugsters,
>
> Can anyone tell me what causes this:
>
> You bug is sounding nice, you see that the dot contact post isn't exactly
> right so you turn it (or do some other adjustment) then from that moment
> onward, your dots sound funny.
>

> It isn't the weighting - you can make them heavy or light - they just
> don't
> SOUND right - and when you check on the air - others report the same thing
> also.
>
> I KNOW how to fix it - take the whole bug apart, clean it, and put it
> together.
>
> But this bug was just totally taken apart, cleaned in ultrasonic bath
> three
> times, dried in a 140 F. degree oven for an hour and reassembled.
>
> The contacts were burnished/polished and cleaned - they're mirrors.
>
> Anyone have a guess why this happens? I've been puzzled by this for over
> 40
> years.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 204. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 15:19:04 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 199  Message: 204

In a conversation with Betsy, she told me that at least some of the old Vibroplexes had contacts systems in which at least one was conical in shape. I wish I had paid closer attention to what she said. I think it might have been the Blue Racer. Anyway, I remember the old "cross-cut" automobile distributor points for high performance engines. They had a "relief" cross cut out of the face of one contact. Maybe the spark tends to force one flat point away from the other flat point. With the cut-out or a conical one, that "forcing" does not take place.
Milt k4oso
In a message dated 1/16/2007 9:05:04 P.M. Pacific Standard Time, kkinderen@... writes:

I wonder about that also.

I wonder... is it better to have two flat pieces of metal hitting each other or have one hit at a bit of an angle? I notice my GHD is a pin on one side and flat contact on the other side.

Try putting a slight angle back in it and let us know if things seem to sound less funny. If the experiment works, I'd be interested in understanding some of the physics behind it.

73,
Kev, K4VD
_http://k4vd.http_ (http://k4vd.net/)

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 205. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 15:14:13 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 199  Message: 205

I recall the old Vaudeville Schtik in which the guy says " I told the Doctor it HURTS when I do that (as he moves his shoulder). The Doctor said, "Well don't do that!" :-)
I know what you mean about that. Its a mystery to me, too. Evidently something is happening at the molecular level as the current flows that forms a "skin" which gets disturbed when you mover the contact post. I'd love to know a solution for it, if its not too, too complicated. I kinda figure if N1EA doesn't know how to fix it the solution will probably be pretty complicated.
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 1/16/2007 8:58:27 P.M. Pacific Standard Time, n1ea@... writes:

Hello Bugsters,

Can anyone tell me what causes this:

You bug is sounding nice, you see that the dot contact post isn't exactly right so you turn it (or do some other adjustment) then from that moment onward, your dots sound funny.

It isn't the weighting - you can make them heavy or light - they just don't SOUND right - and when you check on the air - others report the same thing also.

I KNOW how to fix it - take the whole bug apart, clean it, and put it together.

But this bug was just totally taken apart, cleaned in ultrasonic bath three times, dried in a 140 F. degree oven for an hour and reassembled.

The contacts were burnished/polished and cleaned - they're mirrors.

Anyone have a guess why this happens? I've been puzzled by this for over 40 years.

73

David N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 206. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 17:35:47 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 206

I run the bug through the contact debouncing circuit in the Curthis EK432 keyer. I can hear the funkiness, and W2EUA told me my bug sounded like trash - he is always outspoken and I guess he must know that since I'm a decent bug sender, I won't' get upset!

I can hear it but it neither responds to lengthing (by using the "weight" controol on keyer) or by moving the dot contact forward.

I have a bet that when I moved the post, I loosened the screw at the base, and it is sparking.

What do you think of your paint jobs on old bugs vs. the old black japanned varnish?

73

DR

On 1/17/07, Trail Fox <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Well I suppose it is one form or another of "contact bounce." the
> contacts doa ctually bounce, and also the contacts rub along the face of
> each other. Modern solid state rigs are so fast, they try to follow it. The
> older cathode keying could not.
>
> I have had better luck with the post contact at a slight angle, some folks
> key a mercury wetted vacuum relay, some build a solid-state circuit that
> won't respond that fast because of a capacitor loading up, but I was reading
> in my K2 manual, that simply putting a .1 cap across the contacts can be
> enough to quiet the radio with the less than 1 ms contact bounce.
>
> Good luck, and 73
>
> Fred - kt5x
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 207. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 19:14:15 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 199  Message: 207

Hi, Gang -

Mostly I am a lurker, listening to the various threads. The one on dot-contacts was interesting, and I think that the suggestion that the dot-contact is actually a sliding contact is the correct one. In my own designs (and in a retro-fit I am designing), I have replaced the spring-carried dot contact with a magnet that actuates a reed switch. While it is certainly not authentic (and perhaps even distressing to the purists in the group), it does eliminate the bounce problem and provides much more control over the weight of the dots.

Just my two cents.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 208. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 21:44:39 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 208

One of the best bug designs is the Hi-Mound bug that was discontinued a few years ago - it used magnets and a microswitch just like you describe and was fabulous. I've also heard that the current GHD bug that uses photo-sensors (LED and opti-sensor) works very well - but not so for the paddle as it can't be adjusted close enough for most paddle users. (Certainly off topic for a "bugs" list...)

Thanks for the input guys, I've tried most of what you've suggested in the past - the foam rubber in the middle of the U spring was the usual solution until I solved the problem by taking the bugs apart and cleaning.

One thing I just noticed is that this is an old Presentation with the original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a possibility that the old jewels don't conduct well, I thought that the braid only was there to pass high current as was common with the cathode keyed transmitters of the '1940-70s.

Any comments on the braid?

73
David N1EA

On 1/18/07, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Gang -
>
> Mostly I am a lurker, listening to the various threads. The one on
> dot-contacts was interesting, and I think that the suggestion that the
> dot-contact is actually a sliding contact is the correct one. In my own
> designs (and in a retro-fit I am designing), I have replaced the
> spring-carried dot contact with a magnet that actuates a reed switch. While
> it is certainly not authentic (and perhaps even distressing to the purists
> in the group), it does eliminate the bounce problem and provides much more
> control over the weight of the dots.
>
> Just my two cents.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 209. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-17 23:53:20 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 199  Message: 209

David,

Some time ago I bought a '56 Blue Racer from a S/K's widow. In addition to being coated with tobacco smoke tar, the braid was broken and generally in bad shape. After disassembling the bug and giving it a very thorough cleaning, I set the bug up and added my usual bit of foam in the loop. It seemed to work very well without the braid. However, I did make a replacement using about and inch of coiled up solder wick. Still can't see a difference, but esthetically it looks pretty good.

73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 1:44 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

One of the best bug designs is the Hi-Mound bug that was discontinued a few years ago - it used magnets and a microswitch just like you describe and was fabulous. I've also heard that the current GHD bug that uses photo-sensors (LED and opti-sensor) works very well - but not so for the paddle as it can't be adjusted close enough for most paddle users. (Certainly off topic for a "bugs" list...)

Thanks for the input guys, I've tried most of what you've suggested in the past - the foam rubber in the middle of the U spring was the usual solution until I solved the problem by taking the bugs apart and cleaning.

One thing I just noticed is that this is an old Presentation with the original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a possibility that the old jewels don't conduct well, I thought that the braid only was there to pass high current as was common with the cathode keyed transmitters of the '1940-70s.

Any comments on the braid?

73
David N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 210. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-18 04:19:38 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 210

Pre-made braid is no longer available from Vibroplex as they don't use it
for the new type jewels.

I still haven't taken apart the bug - my vision is causing me problems today
and I doubt that I'd see what I need to see to discover - I had two detached
retinas and now permanent nerve pain after a fall years ago on a ship - a
delayed reaction to the fall I'm afraid - so no workman's comp. (which is
usual for being a seaman), can't sue the company (that's what we must do) as
it was too late, and unfortunately no pension - union pension funds vested
at 10 years then and I have two years shy of it.

So I putter around half-blind and with bad pain from the pinched nerve - but
it sure beats the alternative in the box in the earth.

73
DR

On 1/17/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> David,
>
> Some time ago I bought a '56 Blue Racer from a S/K's widow. In addition to
> being coated with tobacco smoke tar, the braid was broken and generally in
> bad shape. After disassembling the bug and giving it a very thorough
> cleaning, I set the bug up and added my usual bit of foam in the loop. It
> seemed to work very well without the braid. However, I did make a
> replacement using about and inch of coiled up solder wick. Still can't see a
> difference, but esthetically it looks pretty good.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@... <n1ea%40arrl.net>>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com><mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>
> Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 1:44 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs Funny - Why?
>
> One of the best bug designs is the Hi-Mound bug that was discontinued a
> few
> years ago - it used magnets and a microswitch just like you describe and
> was
> fabulous. I've also heard that the current GHD bug that uses photo-sensors
> (LED and opti-sensor) works very well - but not so for the paddle as it
> can't be adjusted close enough for most paddle users. (Certainly off topic
> for a "bugs" list...)

>
> Thanks for the input guys, I've tried most of what you've suggested in the
> past - the foam rubber in the middle of the U spring was the usual
> solution
> until I solved the problem by taking the bugs apart and cleaning.
>
> One thing I just noticed is that this is an old Presentation with the
> original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned grounding
> braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a possibility that
> the old jewels don't conduct well, I thought that the braid only was there
> to pass high current as was common with the cathode keyed transmitters of
> the '1940-70s.
>
> Any comments on the braid?
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 211. noisy bands?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-22 00:03:28 UTC
From: Don Pullen
Topic: 211  Message: 211

The 40 and 20 meter bands seem very noisy to me. Is it the bands, or just my equipment?

de Don n3vy
Ocala, FL

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 212. Re: [cw_bugs] noisy bands?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-22 01:26:26 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 211  Message: 212

At 05:03 PM 1/21/2007, Don Pullen wrote:

>The 40 and 20 meter bands seem very noisy to me. Is it the bands, or
>just my equipment?

Been noisy here most of the day, however I was able to work
three new countries this date. (You just have to keep at it! :-) )

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 213. Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 02:19:12 UTC
From: eric995us
Topic: 199  Message: 213

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned
>grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a

At work we use 1/2 inch and 1 inch wide tined copper strap (braid) for grounding various things. I'll have to see if the outfit we get the stuff from has anything in narrower widths. If I recall correctly the strap on a key is about 1/16 to 1/8 inch. Is this correct?

Eric

# 214. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 02:27:24 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 214

Eric,

I forgot to say thank you, so I'll do so now.

73
David

On 1/23/07, David Ring <djringjr@...> wrote:
>
> It is narrow braided wire - solder wick would do well - which I have.
>
> I will get a round to it when I start feeling better - this cold weather
> and wet gives my arthritis lots of encouragement.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
> On 1/23/07, eric995us <elawson@...> wrote:
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, "David
> > Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> > > original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned
> > >grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a
> >
> > At work we use 1/2 inch and 1 inch wide tined copper strap (braid) for
> > grounding various things. I'll have to see if the outfit we get the
> > stuff from has anything in narrower widths. If I recall correctly the
> > strap on a key is about 1/16 to 1/8 inch. Is this correct?
> >
> > Eric
> >
> >
> >
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 215. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 03:31:45 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 199  Message: 215

That is about right on my Blue Racer. I used solder wick for mine. Works great.
73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: eric995us<mailto:elawson@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2007 6:19 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>, "David Ring" <n1ea@...>
wrote:
> original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned
>grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a

At work we use 1/2 inch and 1 inch wide tined copper strap (braid) for
grounding various things. I'll have to see if the outfit we get the
stuff from has anything in narrower widths. If I recall correctly the
strap on a key is about 1/16 to 1/8 inch. Is this correct?

Eric

Yahoo! Groups Links

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 216. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 03:43:37 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 199  Message: 216

When mom and dad moved from Quantico, VA to 29 Palms, CA, mom, after 6 months, was able to get rid of her crutches that she needed because of her arthritis.

29 Palms is a (still) small town in the Mojave Desert. I was there from 1961 until 1979 when I went off to college in Tempe, AZ.

Jessie, my cat, is "practicing" with my bug. He loves to make noise and watch the pendulum wiggle. It is fun to try to talk with someone when the cat jumps on the table and trys to take over the key.

Eric
WB6TIX

# 217. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 04:38:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 217

You have a talanted cat, my cat's make is "Thomas C.W". I call him TCW for short.

73
David N1EA

On 1/23/07, Eric Lawson <elawson@...> wrote:
>
> When mom and dad moved from Quantico, VA to 29 Palms, CA, mom, after 6
> months, was able to get rid of her crutches that she needed because of her
>
> arthritis.
>
> 29 Palms is a (still) small town in the Mojave Desert. I was there from
> 1961 until 1979 when I went off to college in Tempe, AZ.
>
> Jessie, my cat, is "practicing" with my bug. He loves to make noise and
> watch the pendulum wiggle. It is fun to try to talk with someone when the
> cat jumps on the table and trys to take over the key.
>
> Eric
> WB6TIX
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 218. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 02:25:35 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 199  Message: 218

It is narrow braided wire - solder wick would do well - which I have.

I will get a round to it when I start feeling better - this cold weather and
wet gives my arthritis lots of encouragement.

73
David N1EA

On 1/23/07, eric995us <elawson@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, "David Ring"
> <n1ea@...> wrote:
> > original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned
> >grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a
>
> At work we use 1/2 inch and 1 inch wide tined copper strap (braid) for
> grounding various things. I'll have to see if the outfit we get the
> stuff from has anything in narrower widths. If I recall correctly the
> strap on a key is about 1/16 to 1/8 inch. Is this correct?
>
> Eric
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 219. Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 10:51:16 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 199  Message: 219

Eric, my parrot can send the letter C, but he has trouble with Q. I recently had to ban him from the station console and get him his own key and oscillator, he can chew up a key knob fb.

73, Bill - NT9K
http://www.nt9k.com

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Eric Lawson <elawson@...> wrote:
> Jessie, my cat, is "practicing" with my bug. He loves to make noise and
> watch the pendulum wiggle. It is fun to try to talk with someone when the
> cat jumps on the table and trys to take over the key.
> Eric
> WB6TIX
>

# 220. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs Funny - Why?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 21:20:52 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 199  Message: 220

Regarding the tinned copper flat braid. It looks like it is available in widths of (all in inches) 1/32, 3/64, 3/32, 7/64, 1/8, 3/16, 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, 5/8, 3/4 and 1.

The 1/32 or 3/64 inch widths would probably work. Their current rating is 7amps continuous. If your *cathode* keyed transmitter needs more than that, get a keying relay. :-)

Eric

On Tue, 23 Jan 2007, David Ring wrote:

> It is narrow braided wire - solder wick would do well - which I have.
>
> I will get a round to it when I start feeling better - this cold weather and
> wet gives my arthritis lots of encouragement.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
> On 1/23/07, eric995us <elawson@...> wrote:
>>
>> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, "David Ring"
>> <n1ea@...> wrote:
>>> original synthetic jewels which was provided with a small tinned
>>> grounding braid which is not there now - it's missing. There is a
>>
>> At work we use 1/2 inch and 1 inch wide tined copper strap (braid) for
>> grounding various things. I'll have to see if the outfit we get the
>> stuff from has anything in narrower widths. If I recall correctly the
>> strap on a key is about 1/16 to 1/8 inch. Is this correct?
>>
>> Eric
>>
>>
>>
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>

# 221. NAQCC 160 Meter Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-23 23:41:42 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 221  Message: 221

This Wednesday evening (Thursday morning UTC time) the NAQCC will be hosting a 160 Meter Sprint - great news for all you fans of the Top Band!

The Sprint will be on Wednesday evening January 24th and will run from 8:30 to 10:30 PM EST, 7:30 to 9:30 PM CST, 6:30 to 8:30 PM MST and 5:30 to 7:30 PM PST or from 0130 to 0330 UTC on the morning of January 25th. The recommended frequencies are:

1810 kHz +/- 3kHz

The exchange is as follows:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members send power level in place of NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

Remember the bonus multipliers that you get for using either a straight key or bug during the event. All entries must be postmarked or email dated before 2400Z on January 31st, 2007.

For full details, please visit
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200701_special.html

And to join the NAQCC (if you haven't already!) please go to
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/joinup.html

ALSO !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Please don't forget the ongoing NAQCC WAS Bear Hunt. I do not have 160 Meter capability and will not be able to join you in the Sprint. However, I will put station W2LJ on the air to give out that rarest of states, New Jersey, to anyone who might need it for QRP WAS! I will be on the air as follows: From 0100-0230 UTC on 7.055 MHz and from 0230-0400 UTC on 3.560 MHz. Before or after the Sprint come on by and say "Hello"!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

# 222. Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug price drop

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-24 19:45:31 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 222  Message: 222

I spoke with Betsy this morning about my backordered 100th Anniversary bug. She told me that the last batch will be sn#250-500 and they are dropping the price to 159 bucks. They are having problems with the finish on the base and are considering them all to be seconds. She said the flaw appears as minor overspray and hardly noticable but not up to thier standards.

This was my first dealing with Vibroplex and won't be my last. I didn't mind waiting a month to save 50 bucks. 73, Bill - NT9K

# 223. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug price drop

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-24 22:01:52 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 222  Message: 223

At 12:45 PM 1/24/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
>I spoke with Betsy this morning about my backordered 100th Anniversary
>bug. She told me that the last batch will be sn#250-500 and they are
>dropping the price to 159 bucks. They are having problems with the
>finish on the base and are considering them all to be seconds. She
>said the flaw appears as minor overspray and hardly noticable but not
>up to thier standards.

Now, am I reading too much into this? Does this mean that
they have someone else build the bugs and Mitch & Betsy simply market them?

>This was my first dealing with Vibroplex and won't be my last. I
>didn't mind waiting a month to save 50 bucks. 73, Bill - NT9K

Yep, they're great to deal with.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 224. Re: Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug price drop

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-25 00:21:01 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 222  Message: 224

I believe her exact words were. They were having trouble with production. I never thought about it until you mentioned it. Maybe someone more knowledgeable in the inner workings at Vibroplex could explain what might have happened. 73, Bill - NT9K

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 12:45 PM 1/24/2007, nt9k_skcc wrote:
> >I spoke with Betsy this morning about my backordered 100th Anniversary
> >bug. She told me that the last batch will be sn#250-500 and they are
> >dropping the price to 159 bucks. They are having problems with the
> >finish on the base and are considering them all to be seconds. She
> >said the flaw appears as minor overspray and hardly noticable but not
> >up to thier standards.
>
> Now, am I reading too much into this? Does this mean that
> they have someone else build the bugs and Mitch & Betsy simply
market them?
>
> >This was my first dealing with Vibroplex and won't be my last. I
> >didn't mind waiting a month to save 50 bucks. 73, Bill - NT9K
>
> Yep, they're great to deal with.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> "Just say NO to DHL"
>

# 225. latest restoration

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-01-30 13:55:46 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 225  Message: 225

This is a 1917 Double lever. The base had been refinished in crinkle which was not used at the time. I restored the black Japan finish along with the gold lines and a decal...

enjoy CW,

Fred - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 226. New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-01 10:36:24 UTC
From: ronald913129
Topic: 226  Message: 226

Hi everyone,
I've just joined the
group having been licenced since
1968.I just ordered a new Blue
Racer which should be here on
Friday then the fun will start.
I'm 100% CW here but haven't
used a bug since 1970 so will
need a lot of off-air practice!!
Any tips would be most welcome.
Regards,
Ron g3xov

# 227. Re: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-01 16:22:37 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 226  Message: 227

Hi Ron,
Good for you! I have only one tip,.....start slow. Find a way to slow the bug down and practice at that speed until you get your old smooth fist back. I think lots of guys want to start back sending 30 wpm character rate (cuz their mind remembers), and don't take enough time getting their good timing and spacing back.
Hope to hear you when the bands get better.
73, Milt K4OSO

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 228. Re: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-01 17:58:54 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 226  Message: 228

Ron,
Congrats on the new Blue Racer! I have two, one from 1956 and one of the new ones, and like them both very much. I use a homebrew "bug tamer" to slow mine down. Hope you enjoy yours as much as I do mine.
73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: ronald913129<mailto:ron538@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2007 2:36 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] New Member

Hi everyone,
I've just joined the
group having been licenced since
1968.I just ordered a new Blue
Racer which should be here on
Friday then the fun will start.
I'm 100% CW here but haven't
used a bug since 1970 so will
need a lot of off-air practice!!
Any tips would be most welcome.
Regards,
Ron g3xov

Yahoo! Groups Links

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 229. Re: New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-02 14:53:25 UTC
From: ronald913129
Topic: 226  Message: 229

Hi Milt & Troy,
The bug arrived this
morning and I'm very pleased with it.
The dog thought it was his birthday
because I took him for his walk at
8.00am so that I would be back home
to catch the mailman!
I've slowed it
down by pushing a piece of plastic
tube over the end with a small
chrome socket over that and am
getting along pretty well with it.
Anyway it's a new toy to play with
it's a good job i've an understanding
xyl as she hasn't seen much of me
today!(maybe she thinks that's a good
thing)
Regards,Ron g3xov

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Troy, W6HV" <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> Ron,
> Congrats on the new Blue Racer! I have two, one from 1956 and one
of the new ones, and like them both very much. I use a homebrew "bug
tamer" to slow mine down. Hope you enjoy yours as much as I do mine.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: ronald913129<mailto:ron538@...>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2007 2:36 AM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] New Member
>
>
> Hi everyone,
> I've just joined the
> group having been licenced since
> 1968.I just ordered a new Blue
> Racer which should be here on
> Friday then the fun will start.
> I'm 100% CW here but haven't
> used a bug since 1970 so will
> need a lot of off-air practice!!
> Any tips would be most welcome.
> Regards,

> Ron g3xov
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 230. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-02 17:19:19 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 226  Message: 230

Ron and the Group,

I made an extension for my Vibroplexes using small brass tubing from a hobby shop.
The slow down is dramatic even when using the small weights.
Check this photo of my device:
http://picasaweb.google.com/nn8b.oh/Vibroplex/photo#5026985826255634738
Very easy to make and works like a champ.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 2/2/07, ronald913129 <ron538@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Milt & Troy,
> The bug arrived this
> morning and I'm very pleased with it.
> The dog thought it was his birthday
> because I took him for his walk at
> 8.00am so that I would be back home
> to catch the mailman!
> I've slowed it
> down by pushing a piece of plastic
> tube over the end with a small
> chrome socket over that and am
> getting along pretty well with it.
> Anyway it's a new toy to play with
> it's a good job i've an understanding
> xyl as she hasn't seen much of me
> today!(maybe she thinks that's a good
> thing)
> Regards,Ron g3xov
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, "Troy, W6HV"
> <w6hv@...> wrote:
> >
> > Ron,
> > Congrats on the new Blue Racer! I have two, one from 1956 and one
> of the new ones, and like them both very much. I use a homebrew "bug
> tamer" to slow mine down. Hope you enjoy yours as much as I do mine.
> > 73,
> > Troy, W6HV
> > ----- Original Message -----
> > From: ronald913129<mailto:ron538@...>
> > To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com><mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>

> > Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2007 2:36 AM
> > Subject: [cw_bugs] New Member
> >
> >
> > Hi everyone,
> > I've just joined the
> > group having been licenced since
> > 1968.I just ordered a new Blue
> > Racer which should be here on
> > Friday then the fun will start.
> > I'm 100% CW here but haven't
> > used a bug since 1970 so will
> > need a lot of off-air practice!!
> > Any tips would be most welcome.
> > Regards,
> > Ron g3xov
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 231. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-02 18:27:50 UTC
From: RONALD JOHNSON
Topic: 226  Message: 231

Hi Don,
Thanks for that-very neat.
Regards,Ron

Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
Ron and the Group,

I made an extension for my Vibroplexes using small brass tubing from a hobby shop.
The slow down is dramatic even when using the small weights.
Check this photo of my device:
http://picasaweb.google.com/nn8b.oh/Vibroplex/photo#5026985826255634738
Very easy to make and works like a champ.

73,
Don, NN8B

On 2/2/07, ronald913129 <ron538@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Milt & Troy,
> The bug arrived this
> morning and I'm very pleased with it.
> The dog thought it was his birthday
> because I took him for his walk at
> 8.00am so that I would be back home
> to catch the mailman!
> I've slowed it
> down by pushing a piece of plastic
> tube over the end with a small
> chrome socket over that and am
> getting along pretty well with it.
> Anyway it's a new toy to play with
> it's a good job i've an understanding
> xyl as she hasn't seen much of me
> today!(maybe she thinks that's a good
> thing)
> Regards,Ron g3xov
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>, "Troy, W6HV"
> <w6hv@...> wrote:
> >
> > Ron,
> > Congrats on the new Blue Racer! I have two, one from 1956 and one
> of the new ones, and like them both very much. I use a homebrew "bug
> tamer" to slow mine down. Hope you enjoy yours as much as I do mine.
> > 73,

> > Troy, W6HV
> > ----- Original Message -----
> > From: ronald913129<mailto:ron538@...>
> > To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com><mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>
> > Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2007 2:36 AM
> > Subject: [cw_bugs] New Member
> >
> >
> > Hi everyone,
> > I've just joined the
> > group having been licenced since
> > 1968.I just ordered a new Blue
> > Racer which should be here on
> > Friday then the fun will start.
> > I'm 100% CW here but haven't
> > used a bug since 1970 so will
> > need a lot of off-air practice!!
> > Any tips would be most welcome.
> > Regards,
> > Ron g3xov
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
> >
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 232. morsum magnificat

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-11 21:50:51 UTC
From: richardallisette
Topic: 232  Message: 232

Hi all,

Does anyone have any old copies of Morsum Magnificat magazine they wish to sell?

73 Dick GU4CHY

# 233. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-11 23:47:11 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 233  Message: 233

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday, Feb 14, 0130-0330 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EST, 7:30 - 9:30 CST, 6:30 - 8:30 MST and 5:30 - 7:30 PST.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
For the one making the most QSO's in the last 30 minutes of the sprint (0300-0330Z), but there's a catch. You must also have made at least 5 QSO's in the first 90 minutes. K3WWP will do all the figuring to see who is eligible. You don't have to indicate on your entry anything about the Special Award this time. Be sure your shack clock is set to the right time. In cross-checking it is noticed that some folks' clocks are 5 minutes or more out of sync with everyone else.

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on Feb 20, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

--

73 de Larry W2LJ - NAQCC #35
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

# 234. Re: morsum magnificat

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-11 23:53:55 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 232  Message: 234

I have issues 29-40 and issue 46 available.
Please contact me offline.

Grover K7TP
k7tp@...

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richardallisette" <rallisette@...>
wrote:
>
> Hi all,
>
> Does anyone have any old copies of Morsum Magnificat magazine they
> wish to sell?
>
> 73 Dick GU4CHY
>

# 235. New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-13 07:35:00 UTC
From: Jim Tripp
Topic: 226  Message: 235

Hi All,

I just joined the group, thanks to Earl for having a link to this group in an email on another list.

I have 4 bugs and several Telegraph instruments such as relays, repeaters, sounders, and straight keys. The bugs are as follows:

SN 111779 from 1939
SN 127486 from 1944 w/case
SN 378007 from 1975
SN 381599 from 1976 new in box!

The 1939 bug was one I used on the railroad when I worked as a telegrapher back in the early 60's. The only Morse we sent in those days was to report trains passing so the next station down the line knew what was coming and when.

I can't remember if I ever used a bug on Ham radio or not. Most of the time on CW was with a straight key or a keyer with iambic paddle.

You can see some of my telegraph stuff here:

http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm

I have more pieces I need to add to that page so maybe this will cause me to get busy.

73 om's de wa6dij
Jim Tripp

# 236. Re: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-13 12:36:45 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 226  Message: 236

At 12:35 AM 2/13/2007, Jim Tripp wrote:
>You can see some of my telegraph stuff here:
>
><http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm>http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm
>

I'm just getting a black background, nothing else is coming
through. Guess I'll try again tonight.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

# 237. RE: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-13 20:03:54 UTC
From: Jim Tripp
Topic: 226  Message: 237

Hi Earl,

I just tried and it worked okay for me. The page does have a black background, but because of all the photos it may take a while to load if you have a dial-up connection.

Jim Tripp

http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org <http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/>

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Earl Needham
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2007 4:37 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] New Member

At 12:35 AM 2/13/2007, Jim Tripp wrote:
>You can see some of my telegraph stuff here:
>
http://www.antiquer <http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm>
adiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm
>

I'm just getting a black background, nothing else is coming through. Guess I'll try again tonight.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs>
yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
"Just say NO to DHL"

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 238. RE: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-13 20:44:32 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 226  Message: 238

Hi, Jim -

I have been browsing your museum - it is fabulous, and the CQ Serenade is cute. I wish I had an excuse to visit in person (you are pretty far from W9 land).

As I steal time from what I am supposed to be doing, I will continue to browse.

Thanks for sharing your site.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: Jim Tripp <wa6dij@...>
>Sent: Feb 13, 2007 3:03 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] New Member
>

# 239. RE: [cw_bugs] New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-13 20:56:56 UTC
From: Jim Tripp
Topic: 226  Message: 239

Thanks Rich,

Glad you are enjoying a tour of the museum. What part of W9 land do you live in? I get back that way a couple of times a year to Kokomo, Indiana to visit our daughter and to attend the Indiana Historical Radio Society swap meet and auction. We also visit the South Bend area where my wife's relatives live.

Check back in a day or two because I will be adding new items to the Telegraph page which will include a couple more bugs, keys, relays and sounders. I'll try to complete it today but I have an appointment which may steal too much time away from my fun.

Jim Tripp/wa6dij

http://www.AntiqueRadioMuseum.org <http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/>

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Richard Meiss
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2007 12:45 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com; cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] New Member

Hi, Jim -

I have been browsing your museum - it is fabulous, and the CQ Serenade is cute. I wish I had an excuse to visit in person (you are pretty far from W9 land).

As I steal time from what I am supposed to be doing, I will continue to browse.

Thanks for sharing your site.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: Jim Tripp <wa6dij@redshift. <mailto:wa6dij%40redshift.com> com>
>Sent: Feb 13, 2007 3:03 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com> .com
>Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] New Member
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 240. Web update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-15 08:51:22 UTC
From: Jim Tripp
Topic: 240  Message: 240

I have just updated my telegraph page with some more bugs, keys, sounders, relays, etc. You can check it out here:
http://www.antiqueradiomuseum.org/telegraph.htm

Jim Tripp

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 241. February RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-17 21:52:12 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 241  Message: 241

This Sunday evening, the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EST (0200-0400 UTC Monday). So, if you're not exhausted after working DX all weekend, remember the RFTB !!!

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is February 25th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 242. KD5XB's Bug in a showcase

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-24 01:01:47 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 242  Message: 242

Earl,

What a unnique twist. I saw this once on a Vibroplex display at a Rickreal, Oregon hamfest. Fine Business, indeed.

72 de Scott

# 243. Re: [cw_bugs] KD5XB's Bug in a showcase

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-24 15:44:20 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 242  Message: 243

At 06:01 PM 2/23/2007, Scott Laughlin wrote:
>Earl,
>
>What a unnique twist. I saw this once on a Vibroplex display at a
>Rickreal, Oregon hamfest. Fine Business, indeed.
>
>72 de Scott

What a nice thing to say, Scott! But I can't take the
credit for it, I got the bug just that way. The top is engraved -- I
can't remember the exact wording -- but it was apparently a gift to
Henry Yahnel when he "retired" from the W2 QSL bureau in the mid 50's
(the serial # indicates it's a 1956 bug) -- see
http://www.njdxa.org/buro/qsl-bureau-history.php for info on Mr. Yahnel.

I bought the bug off eBay and the seller told me he got it
from an antique store in the Los Angeles area. There probably isn't
any way to tell for sure, but this might have been the very bug you
saw in Oregon!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 244. My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 06:31:37 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 244  Message: 244

Hi,

After many months of practicing with straight keys, I took the plunge and got on 40 meters with my Vibroplex Champion. But I was hardly a champ, hi hi. I bolted a short piece of steel to the bottom my the weight and got the character speed somewhere around 17 wpm, certainly in my comfort zone. I have an Extendadot on the way, but tried the jury-rigged version to test the bug out first.

I've had this bug setting around a few months now. But for some reason all the pieces fell together and I figured out how to adjust it, at least enough to get on the air. A few months practicing with straight keys helped me figure out how to adjust the bug. After all, a bug is hybrid of a straight key and paddles, though they were around long before paddles. I've got the basics down, but have a long way to go.

My first QSO was with Skip, WB4DAD in Texas. When we signed, Milt K4OSO gave me a call. Milt is a member of this group and also SKCC. Milt certainly has a good fist with his Blue Racer. But for some reason I get out better than I hear. Maybe its the urban Southern California noise levels. And towards the end, QRM came in and I lost Milt.

I have been lurking on this group for awhile now, but haven't posted recently. I will keep the group updated when my Extendadot comes in. A friend of mine does not think bugs should be used below 20 wpm, but my experience was not too bad.

How does the Champion compare to other bugs? It is my only bug at this time. I have heard Champions are slower than other bugs. I get around 20 wpm with a 1 oz weight and 24 wpm with the 0.8 oz weight. Putting both weights on did not help much at all. I picked this one up for $85 at a swap meet last fall and just cleaned now it up with some metal polish. Still needs more restoration.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 245. Bug Slow Down Devices

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 14:07:20 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 245  Message: 245

I put pictures in the Photos section of the slow down devices I made for both flat and round arm bugs.

Getting the weight out beyond the damper has a dramatic slow down effect. The flat arm in the picture is a Bunnell J-36 and is normally fast. The weight shown get it to about 15 wpm.

The Weight on the Vibroplex is a .8 oz and gets the speed to about 17 wpm. This is slower that two 1oz weights on the arm.

This also gets the weight on the shaft centerline. I believe this reduces the torquing effect of higher mounted weights and reduces contact chatter caused by the torquing.

All these were made from parts from the local True Value Hardware.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 246. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 20:33:07 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 244  Message: 246

I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at speeds of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why send with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm very well.

I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and there's no need.

I just grab my hand key.

If I want to send 25 wpm or so, I grab the bug on which I'm comfortable at varying degrees up to about 45 wpm at which speed it becomes too much work to send with a bug for me.

Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your coordination - and patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can send dots on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art of CW" by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an excellent article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted with permission of the author here.

73

David Ring, N1EA

On 2/27/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Hi,
>
> After many months of practicing with straight keys, I took the plunge
> and got on 40 meters with my Vibroplex Champion. But I was hardly a
> champ, hi hi. I bolted a short piece of steel to the bottom my the
> weight and got the character speed somewhere around 17 wpm, certainly
> in my comfort zone. I have an Extendadot on the way, but tried the
> jury-rigged version to test the bug out first.
>
> I've had this bug setting around a few months now. But for some
> reason all the pieces fell together and I figured out how to
> adjust it, at least enough to get on the air. A few months practicing
> with straight keys helped me figure out how to adjust the bug. After
> all, a bug is hybrid of a straight key and paddles, though they were
> around long before paddles. I've got the basics down, but have a long
> way to go.
>
> My first QSO was with Skip, WB4DAD in Texas. When we signed, Milt
> K4OSO gave me a call. Milt is a member of this group and also SKCC.
> Milt certainly has a good fist with his Blue Racer. But for some
> reason I get out better than I hear. Maybe its the urban Southern

> California noise levels. And towards the end, QRM came in and I lost
> Milt.
>
> I have been lurking on this group for awhile now, but haven't posted
> recently. I will keep the group updated when my Extendadot comes in.
> A friend of mine does not think bugs should be used below 20 wpm, but
> my experience was not too bad.
>
> How does the Champion compare to other bugs? It is my only bug at
> this time. I have heard Champions are slower than other bugs. I get
> around 20 wpm with a 1 oz weight and 24 wpm with the 0.8 oz weight.
> Putting both weights on did not help much at all. I picked this one
> up for $85 at a swap meet last fall and just cleaned now it up with
> some metal polish. Still needs more restoration.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 247. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 20:57:38 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 244  Message: 247

I won't argue with you (a pro), but, I use a bug at speeds 25 wpm and slower because my arthritis kills me when I use a straight key for any length of time. I frequently have QSOs lasting more than a half hour on the bug without it bothering me. So I suggest it depends on an individual's circumstance.
73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 12:33 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at speeds of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why send with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm very well.

I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and there's no need.

I just grab my hand key.

If I want to send 25 wpm or so, I grab the bug on which I'm comfortable at varying degrees up to about 45 wpm at which speed it becomes too much work to send with a bug for me.

Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your coordination - and patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can send dots on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art of CW" by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an excellent article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted with permission of the author here.

73

David Ring, N1EA

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 248. Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 21:32:17 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 244  Message: 248

Above all else, CW should be fun.

72 de Scott

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at
speeds
> of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why
send
> with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm
very well.
>
> I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and
there's no
> need.
>
> I just grab my hand key.
>
> If I want to send 25 wpm or so, I grab the bug on which I'm
comfortable at
> varying degrees up to about 45 wpm at which speed it becomes too
much work
> to send with a bug for me.
>
> Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your
coordination - and
> patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can
send dots
> on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art
of CW"
> by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an
excellent
> article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted
with
> permission of the author here.
>
> 73
>
> David Ring, N1EA
>
> On 2/27/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> >
> > Hi,
> >

> > After many months of practicing with straight keys, I took the
plunge
> > and got on 40 meters with my Vibroplex Champion. But I was hardly
a
> > champ, hi hi. I bolted a short piece of steel to the bottom my the
> > weight and got the character speed somewhere around 17 wpm,
certainly
> > in my comfort zone. I have an Extendadot on the way, but tried the
> > jury-rigged version to test the bug out first.
> >
> > I've had this bug setting around a few months now. But for some
> > reason all the pieces fell together and I figured out how to
> > adjust it, at least enough to get on the air. A few months
practicing
> > with straight keys helped me figure out how to adjust the bug.
After
> > all, a bug is hybrid of a straight key and paddles, though they
were
> > around long before paddles. I've got the basics down, but have a
long
> > way to go.
> >
> > My first QSO was with Skip, WB4DAD in Texas. When we signed, Milt
> > K4OSO gave me a call. Milt is a member of this group and also
SKCC.
> > Milt certainly has a good fist with his Blue Racer. But for some
> > reason I get out better than I hear. Maybe its the urban Southern
> > California noise levels. And towards the end, QRM came in and I
lost
> > Milt.
> >
> > I have been lurking on this group for awhile now, but haven't
posted
> > recently. I will keep the group updated when my Extendadot comes
in.
> > A friend of mine does not think bugs should be used below 20 wpm,
but
> > my experience was not too bad.
> >
> > How does the Champion compare to other bugs? It is my only bug at
> > this time. I have heard Champions are slower than other bugs. I
get
> > around 20 wpm with a 1 oz weight and 24 wpm with the 0.8 oz
weight.
> > Putting both weights on did not help much at all. I picked this
one
> > up for $85 at a swap meet last fall and just cleaned now it up
with
> > some metal polish. Still needs more restoration.
> >

> > 73,
> >
> > Steve N6VL
> >
> >
> >
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 249. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 21:53:00 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 244  Message: 249

Hello Troy,

I agree with you 100% - that's the speed range that the bug was designed and invented for and for about that reason - as you probably know Mr. H. G. Martin was one of the fastest senders in the country but faced unemployment because of "telegrapher's paralysis" - which we know as "glass arm" or carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS).

An excellent article about Mr. Martin:
http://www.telegraph-history.org/horace-g-martin/hgmp1.htm

What may not be obvious to many is that what we "older" (I use that term delicately with wishes to respect the grey hairs) telegraphers assume the bug to be used at a speed range of 20 wpm and higher, while newer telegraphers especially radiotelegraphers who have perhaps learned first on the electronic keyer and paddle arrangement instead of the traditional - straight key - then - semi-automatic key - then (when it was invented!) the keyer - then the keyboard (for those QRQ guys who blast at 99 wpm and faster!).

I would suggest that the Vibroplex (and other maker's) keys weren't designed for 20 wpm and slower.

IF someone wants to send as slow as they can - here's one way to do it.

1/ Open up the dot lever limit screw (loosening the knurled nut on the frame to allow this) "all the way".
2/ Open up the dot lever post contact screw so that it is furthest from the dot contact spring (the U shaped spring).
3/ Open up the dash contact post screw - you'll need more space to send slow dashes.

4/ Now adjust the key - you'll need much more space (and paddle movement) to send slower and maintain control over the key.

Many electronic paddle users aren't used to and don't feel comfortable with such wide spacings - but you need to adjust a bug for the speed - a bug's adjustments will change with the speed at which it is used. That's why a bug has a limited range of adjustment - it just can't send just as well from 15 wpm to 65 wpm - it has to be adjusted every 5 wpm (or so) to be optimum. (in other words, the bug when sped up or slowed down just won't sound optimum until it is tuned up again.)

Troy, I know you have tons of experience in this, so chime in.

David Ring, N1EA
=30=

On 2/28/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> I won't argue with you (a pro), but, I use a bug at speeds 25 wpm and
> slower because my arthritis kills me when I use a straight key for any
> length of time. I frequently have QSOs lasting more than a half hour on the
> bug without it bothering me. So I suggest it depends on an individual's
> circumstance.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@... <n1ea%40arrl.net>>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com><mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>
> Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 12:33 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...
>
> I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at speeds
> of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why send
> with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm very
> well.
>
> I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and there's no
> need.
>
> I just grab my hand key.
>
> If I want to send 25 wpm or so, I grab the bug on which I'm comfortable at
> varying degrees up to about 45 wpm at which speed it becomes too much work
> to send with a bug for me.
>
> Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your coordination -
> and
> patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can send dots
> on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art of CW"
> by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an excellent
> article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted with
> permission of the author here.
>
> 73
>
> David Ring, N1EA
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 250. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-27 22:35:52 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 244  Message: 250

David,

Thanks for the comments! I am too familiar with CTS (just had the surgery last month). That with arthritis is a trying combination. The article about Mr. Horace G. Martin and his "glass arm" was excellent.

Your description of the adjustment for slow speed brings up a point on which you might provide some insight. I've tried most of the devices to slow a bug down including more or larger weights, the "vari-speed", the "bug tamer", etc. and found that something about the balance or "feel" is changed--and not to my liking. For me, about the only compromise that is least worrisome is to extend the arm past the damper and use a small weight.

I would expect you could give us some pointers on this.

Troy, W6HV

----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 1:53 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Hello Troy,

I agree with you 100% - that's the speed range that the bug was designed and invented for and for about that reason - as you probably know Mr. H. G. Martin was one of the fastest senders in the country but faced unemployment because of "telegrapher's paralysis" - which we know as "glass arm" or carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS).

An excellent article about Mr. Martin:
http://www.telegraph-history.org/horace-g-martin/hgmp1.htm<http://www.telegraph-history.org/horace-g-martin/hgmp1.htm>

What may not be obvious to many is that what we "older" (I use that term delicately with wishes to respect the grey hairs) telegraphers assume the bug to be used at a speed range of 20 wpm and higher, while newer telegraphers especially radiotelegraphers who have perhaps learned first on the electronic keyer and paddle arrangement instead of the traditional - straight key - then - semi-automatic key - then (when it was invented!) the keyer - then the keyboard (for those QRQ guys who blast at 99 wpm and faster!).

I would suggest that the Vibroplex (and other maker's) keys weren't designed for 20 wpm and slower.

IF someone wants to send as slow as they can - here's one way to do it.

1/ Open up the dot lever limit screw (loosening the knurled nut on the frame to allow this) "all the way".
2/ Open up the dot lever post contact screw so that it is furthest from the dot contact spring (the U shaped spring).
3/ Open up the dash contact post screw - you'll need more space to send slow dashes.

4/ Now adjust the key - you'll need much more space (and paddle movement) to send slower and maintain control over the key.

Many electronic paddle users aren't used to and don't feel comfortable with such wide spacings - but you need to adjust a bug for the speed - a bug's adjustments will change with the speed at which it is used. That's why a bug has a limited range of adjustment - it just can't send just as well from 15 wpm to 65 wpm - it has to be adjusted every 5 wpm (or so) to be optimum. (in other words, the bug when sped up or slowed down just won't sound optimum until it is tuned up again.)

Troy, I know you have tons of experience in this, so chime in.

David Ring, N1EA
=30=

On 2/28/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...<mailto:w6hv@...>> wrote:
>
> I won't argue with you (a pro), but, I use a bug at speeds 25 wpm and
> slower because my arthritis kills me when I use a straight key for any
> length of time. I frequently have QSOs lasting more than a half hour on the
> bug without it bothering me. So I suggest it depends on an individual's
> circumstance.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...<mailto:n1ea@...> <n1ea%40arrl.net>>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
<cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com><mailto:
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>
> Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 12:33 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...
>
> I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at speeds
> of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why send
> with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm very
> well.
>
> I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and there's no
> need.
>
> I just grab my hand key.
>
> If I want to send 25 wpm or so, I grab the bug on which I'm comfortable at
> varying degrees up to about 45 wpm at which speed it becomes too much work

> to send with a bug for me.
>
> Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your coordination -
> and
> patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can send dots
> on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art of CW"
> by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an excellent
> article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted with
> permission of the author here.
>
> 73
>
> David Ring, N1EA
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Yahoo! Groups Links

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 251. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 00:03:54 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 244  Message: 251

Extending the vibrator arm with a device like the "extend-a-dot" or similar and putting a small weight on it is probably the most balanced way to slow dowm a bug.

But even loading the vibrator with weights creates a problem - the balance of the whole machine (bug) changes! When the vibrator isn't balanced it doesn't turn well, and it becomes sluggish to move as the center of gravity is now located away from the turning point (the pivot of the trunnion).

Perhaps the best balanced bugs ever made are the Schurr bug (from Germany) and the bug made by I1QOD - which is a double lever bug. The double lever design corrects a design flaw of the Vibroplex Original when used at high speeds: There is a instant of time that the operator takes from sending dots to making a dash. At high speeds this becomes a delay as the operator must move from the right to the left. With a dual lever bug, the operator merely has to close the dash lever which is completely independant of the dot lever and can be activated at any time - including while the dots are being made.

For slow speeds I recommend a electronic keyer or a hand key - or even a keyboard.

73

David N1EA
MTC, SOWP, OOTC etc.

On 2/28/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> David,
>
> Your description of the adjustment for slow speed brings up a point on
> which you might provide some insight. I've tried most of the devices to slow
> a bug down including more or larger weights, the "vari-speed", the "bug
> tamer", etc. and found that something about the balance or "feel" is
> changed--and not to my liking. For me, about the only compromise that is
> least worrisome is to extend the arm past the damper and use a small weight.
>
>
> I would expect you could give us some pointers on this.
>
> Troy, W6HV
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 252. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 00:39:35 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 244  Message: 252

I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15 WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a suggestion--i.e. make the characters at 22 WPM with enough space to slow the speed down to 15 WPM. I realize a lot of the timing is lost, but it seems to me to be a solution for those of us with old hands that can't use straight keys for great lengths of time. Any thoughts from you experienced bug users?

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 02/27/07 17:15:57 Mountain Standard Time, n1ea@... writes:
For slow speeds I recommend a electronic keyer or a hand key - or even a keyboard.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 253. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 01:32:07 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 244  Message: 253

Ci, I think yours is an excellent idea. I suggested it once on the SKCC reflector and was told the resulting cw "always sounds lame". Of course I heartily disagree with that characterization. Its a good way to slow down without having to fiddle with the bug for a single qso. I've heard your technique used by experienced bug men, so its good enough for me. 73, Milt K4OSO In a message dated 2/27/2007 5:03:27 P.M. Pacific Standard Time, BPCI@... writes: I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15 WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a suggestion--I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15 WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM Ci Jones, WU7R FISTS #10789, CC# 1853 SKCC #22, C#38 NAQCC #306 QRPARCI #12163

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com. [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 254. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 02:21:06 UTC
From: Ken
Topic: 244  Message: 254

Ci,

great to hear another new Bug user. I very recently picked up a very clean 1963 Champion and will be in the process of "training" myself. Haven't had too much time to get it "tuned" yet, but will in the upcoming next few days. After 30+ yrs of iambic paddles I was talked into getting on a Bug. Will be a "lefty" on the Bug - keeping the paddle on the right to avoid a possible timing mess. I may go practice in the phone bands & prevent being called a LID. Ops in the phone bands may think it is a new digital mode.

Hope to catch you on the bands. It will be a few weeks of practice before hearing my Bug on the air. There are still some top notch Bug ops on the bands. Will be fun to see what it takes to be one now.

73,

Ken, KA0W

----- Original Message -----
From: "BPCI" <BPCI@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 6:39 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

>I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning
>CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and
>work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15
>WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In
>all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a
>suggestion--i.e. make the characters at 22 WPM with enough space to slow
>the speed down to 15 WPM. I realize a lot of the timing is lost, but it
>seems to me to be a solution for those of us with old hands that can't use
>straight keys for great lengths of time. Any thoughts from you experienced
>bug users?
>
> Ci Jones, WU7R
> FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
> SKCC #22, C#38
> NAQCC #306
> QRPARCI #12163

# 255. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 02:21:00 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 244  Message: 255

Ci,

This (if my memory serves), in teaching/learning CW, is known as "the Farnsworth Method" and is an excellent way to help avoid counting the dots and dashes. It also is a good way to send at a slower speed without having to try and slow down your bug. I've heard (and used) the technique when working a station that wishes a slower speed or when the copy is difficult due to QRN/QRM. I expect the good bug ops might disagree with me, but I think it's an acceptable solution.

Troy,W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: BPCI<mailto:BPCI@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 4:39 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15 WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a suggestion--i.e. make the characters at 22 WPM with enough space to slow the speed down to 15 WPM. I realize a lot of the timing is lost, but it seems to me to be a solution for those of us with old hands that can't use straight keys for great lengths of time. Any thoughts from you experienced bug users?

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 02/27/07 17:15:57 Mountain Standard Time, n1ea@...<mailto:n1ea@...>
writes:
For slow speeds I recommend a electronic keyer or a hand key - or even a
keyboard.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Yahoo! Groups Links

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 256. Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 03:14:03 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 244  Message: 256

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> Also sending and practicing with a hand key develops your
coordination - and
> patience. Remember to keep your wrist down. Practice so you can
send dots
> on your key for minutes at a time. There is an article called "Art
of CW"
> by a VE7 in the files section - probably under N1EA that is an
excellent
> article which originally appeared in "World Radio" and is reprinted
with
> permission of the author here.
>

David,

The file does not exists on this group. There is a files by a VE7
called "The Secrets of CW" on the SKCC Yahoo group. It shows you as
the owner. Is that the file you are referring to?

73,

Steve N6VL

# 257. Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 03:23:52 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 244  Message: 257

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I also think it is just about a waste of time to send with a bug at
speeds
> of 20 wpm and less. The key wasn't designed to go so slow, and why
send
> with a bug when a good hand key will do the job of sending 20 wpm
very well.
>
> I find sending 20 wpm with a bug torture. I never do it - and
there's no
> need.
>
> I just grab my hand key.
>

David,

Well then a bug would be out of my league then. I can't copy that fast right now. And I can't makes dashes in the 20 wpm plus region, at least not yet. I guess that precludes me from using bugs. There are a lot of paddles users at slower speeds.

The Hi-Mound HK-802 Swedish Pump Key clone is far and above the best straight key I've tried so far. Yet there is still a fatigue issue, though far less than with other straight keys. To be fair, the bug also got tiring after a while. My code with the straight key is much better than the bug at this time. But don't tell Milt that. I fell apart on the HK-802 when switching from the bug, hi hi. I think it takes practice to suddenly switch keys on the fly, at least in my experience.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 258. Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 03:39:58 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 244  Message: 258

David,

I have a friend who says the J-36 bug is designed to work at speeds below 20 wpm. I will have to ask him for his information source. I wonder how the J-36 is different from other bugs.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 259. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 04:03:17 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 244  Message: 259

At 08:23 PM 2/27/2007, n6vl wrote:
>Well then a bug would be out of my league then. I can't copy that
>fast right now. And I can't makes dashes in the 20 wpm plus region,
>at least not yet. I guess that precludes me from using bugs. There
>are a lot of paddles users at slower speeds.

No it doesn't!

All the statements about bugs not being used a less than 20
or 25 WPM are just opinion -- if you want to use a bug, then by all
means get one and learn how it works and go have some fun with it.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 260. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 04:20:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 244  Message: 260

Speaking of Lefty bugs --- Vibroplex makes left handed bugs once again.

Life is good!

73

DR

On 2/28/07, Ken <ka0w@...> wrote:
>
> Ci,
>
> great to hear another new Bug user. I very recently picked up a very clean
>
> 1963 Champion and will be in the process of "training" myself. Haven't had
>
> too much time to get it "tuned" yet, but will in the upcoming next few
> days.
> After 30+ yrs of iambic paddles I was talked into getting on a Bug. Will
> be
> a "lefty" on the Bug - keeping the paddle on the right to avoid a possible
>
> timing mess. I may go practice in the phone bands & prevent being called a
>
> LID. Ops in the phone bands may think it is a new digital mode.
>
> Hope to catch you on the bands. It will be a few weeks of practice before
> hearing my Bug on the air. There are still some top notch Bug ops on the
> bands. Will be fun to see what it takes to be one now.
>
> 73,
>
> Ken, KA0W
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "BPCI" <BPCI@... <BPCI%40aol.com>>
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>>
> Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 6:39 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...
>
> >I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning
>
> >CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and
>
> >work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at
> 15

> >WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In
>
> >all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a
> >suggestion--i.e. make the characters at 22 WPM with enough space to slow
> >the speed down to 15 WPM. I realize a lot of the timing is lost, but it
> >seems to me to be a solution for those of us with old hands that can't
> use
> >straight keys for great lengths of time. Any thoughts from you
> experienced
> >bug users?
> >
> > Ci Jones, WU7R
> > FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
> > SKCC #22, C#38
> > NAQCC #306
> > QRPARCI #12163
>
>
>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 261. Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 10:44:16 UTC
From: Don Pullen
Topic: 244  Message: 261

Ken, I got a great chuckle out of the "new digital mode"! Wish I had thought of that when I started learning Morse code!

vy 73 de Don n3vy
Ocala, FL

----- Original Message -----
From: Ken
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 9:21 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

Ci,

great to hear another new Bug user. I very recently picked up a very clean 1963 Champion and will be in the process of "training" myself. Haven't had too much time to get it "tuned" yet, but will in the upcoming next few days. After 30+ yrs of iambic paddles I was talked into getting on a Bug. Will be a "lefty" on the Bug - keeping the paddle on the right to avoid a possible timing mess. I may go practice in the phone bands & prevent being called a LID. Ops in the phone bands may think it is a new digital mode.

Hope to catch you on the bands. It will be a few weeks of practice before hearing my Bug on the air. There are still some top notch Bug ops on the bands. Will be fun to see what it takes to be one now.

73,

Ken, KA0W

----- Original Message -----
From: "BPCI" <BPCI@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 6:39 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] My first bug experience...

>I am a new bug user, and not a particularly good one at that. In learning
>CW, I was told to set the character speed (of my MFJ Tutor) at 22 WPM and
>work up my speed until I exceeded that. In other words, I was copying at 15
>WPM characters sent at 22 WPM with space in between to make it 15 WPM. In
>all of the various discussion of bug speeds, I have never seen this as a
>suggestion--i.e. make the characters at 22 WPM with enough space to slow
>the speed down to 15 WPM. I realize a lot of the timing is lost, but it
>seems to me to be a solution for those of us with old hands that can't use
>straight keys for great lengths of time. Any thoughts from you experienced
>bug users?
>

> Ci Jones, WU7R
> FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
> SKCC #22, C#38
> NAQCC #306
> QRPARCI #12163

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 262. Re: My first bug experience...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 14:55:13 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 244  Message: 262

Steve,

I have a World War II J-36 Serial number 103, 1943. I bought at a hamfest. It is a quick one, and in my humble opinion it works best for over 20 wpm. I think the blade length is shorter, is the reason for the speed.

My source is hands on.

72 de Scott

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> David,
>
> I have a friend who says the J-36 bug is designed to work at speeds
> below 20 wpm. I will have to ask him for his information source. I
> wonder how the J-36 is different from other bugs.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 263. Using a bug at less than 20 WPM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 14:28:59 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 263  Message: 263

Fellow Bug Users:

I have great respect for David N1EA. He has vast experience. He has given me some great advice and suggestions. I must, however, disagree with his contention that using a bug to send at speeds less than 20 WPM is not a good idea.

When I became a ham (Novice) 42 years ago at the tender age of 14, CW was the only mode available to me. I loved it. I became active in traffic handling and strove to find the sending method that would allow me to send nearly perfect CW. I have remained true to the mode all this time.

I started with a simple (and inexpensive) straight key. When I learned about bugs I bought a Vibroplex Deluxe Original. I struggled to make it work and failed. Being a youngster I had no patience. None of my Elmers could help me either. The bug was replaced by a keyer which was soon replaced by a keyboard keyer. For the next 40 years, I used my keyboard keyers to send near perfect CW. I was a CW sending machine. My fist had no personality but I was easily copyable.

In early 2006, I joined SKCC and began using straight keys. 22 WPM is my straight key sending limit so a bug was the next logical step. I bought several over a few months including a dual lever Frattini (I1QOD) recommended by David N1EA. This time I was patient. I worked slowly and carefully found the "sweet spot" setup combo for each bug. Today I'm proud of my bug fist.

At first, I wanted to be able to send at 17 WPM with a bug. The Extendadot was the best solution and it allowed the bug to be slowed to 14 WPM if needed. When sending at less than 20 WPM, my Amplidan straight key sounds best but there are times when I don't want to pump a hand key. The Vibroplex Original with Extendadot add-on has proven to be the perfect solution for bug sending at speeds from 15 to 25 WPM. I heartily recommend the combination.

The Vibroplex Original with the Extendadot allowed me to master the bug in a relatively short time. I can engage in slower speed QSOs with straight key senders without the curse of 25 WPM dits and 17 WPM dahs.

Today I have 4 bugs and 1 straight key on the operating position. The Vibroplex Original for the slowest speeds, the Frattini dual lever for the highest speeds, a VizKey Vertical for fun and fairly high speeds and a Vibroplex Lightning Bug for the "mid range" speeds and keying the second HF rig on the desk.

When it comes to sending at speeds below 20 WPM with a bug, I say go for it. It can be done easily and well. I've worked plenty of folks who are

using a bug at speeds below 20 WPM. When the bug is adjusted correctly and the user has decent skill, it sounds great and is easy to copy. The sending motion is easier on the hand, wrist and arm than that required to use any straight key. For some folks that can be very important. In the final analysis, use the sending tool that allows you to enjoy sending with very good results.

73,

Frank N. Haas KB4T
Florida

# 264. Re: [cw_bugs] Using a bug at less than 20 WPM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-02-28 15:50:05 UTC
From: Makos327@worldnet.att.net
Topic: 263  Message: 264

---------- Original message ----------
From: "Frank N. Haas" <kb4t@...>
>
>
> When it comes to sending at speeds below 20 WPM with a bug, I say go for
> it. It can be done easily and well. I've worked plenty of folks who are
> using a bug at speeds below 20 WPM. When the bug is adjusted correctly and
> the user has decent skill, it sounds great and is easy to copy. The sending
> motion is easier on the hand, wrist and arm than that required to use any
> straight key. For some folks that can be very important. In the final
> analysis, use the sending tool that allows you to enjoy sending with very
> good results.
>

I think that Frank has hit the nail on the head here; and I heartily agree!

My dad and my uncle owned a small grocery store; and for years, as a kid, I spent my summers there, working. One of the side benefits (sarcasm on) of that work experience was arthritis in both of my hands. Handling refrigerated items and meats for days and years took its toll. I'm not quite 50 yet; but there are days my hands feel like giant toothaches!

Using a paddle and keyer; and now a bug for mechanical CW has been a life saver for me at times. Most of the time I can use a straight key without a problem. There are days, though .....

73 de Larry W2LJ
--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the
very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 265. Re: Using a bug at less than 20 WPM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-01 01:11:49 UTC
From: Tom Waits
Topic: 263  Message: 265

>use the sending tool that allows you to enjoy sending with very
> good results.

> Frank N. Haas KB4T
> Florida
>

Howdy,

Most of the time I lurk on these lists and enjoy them. Bugs, however, are a very improtant part of my ham radio experiance.

I think Frank's last statement really hit it on the head. Use what you like, use what you enjoy and have fun with and most of all, can send good code with. I have fun with bugs, sometimes 18wpm dit speed sometimes faster. Definatly in my openion, eaiser then a streight key at almost any speed. A 30 min rag chew with the J-38 and my forearm is ready for a break. I can go all day with one of my bugs. I love'em.

Glad there are groups dedicated to preserving them and CW.

Join me and my friends on the Vintage Bug Net Wednesday Evenngs at 0230Z on 80m 3570 and then at 0300 on 40m 7070. Net control is Shelby, AD4WQ. Lots of FB old bug and ops checking in.

73 and Enjoy CW and BUGS!

Tom AC5JH

# 266. Need Delaware for WAS?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-01 05:08:06 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 266  Message: 266

The NAQCC is featuring Charles N3EJS of Delaware as this week's QRP CW "Bear".

His schedule for the rest of the week can be found at:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//wasproject_current.html

Happy Hunting!
73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

# 267. "Fast lever"???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-06 17:24:41 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 267  Message: 267

Looking at
http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=180089590189 what
does the term "Fast Lever" mean? It's actually printed on the box,
and makes me think it was some kind of option directly from Vibroplex.

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 268. Re: "Fast lever"???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-06 18:09:49 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 267  Message: 268

Earl,

I have a US Army Signal Corps bug dated January 1943. I've never been able to slow it down below 20 wpm. When I get enough weight for the job it stops making dits. In my humble opinion, it's the length of the blade that determines the minimum speed at which it will make dits. And I think if I were to fabricate an extension to the blade it would operate at something less than 20.

I guess that's not really an answer; it's an opinion.

73 de Scott

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> Looking at
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=180089590189 what
> does the term "Fast Lever" mean? It's actually printed on the box,
> and makes me think it was some kind of option directly from Vibroplex.
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>

# 269. Re: [cw_bugs] "Fast lever"???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-06 18:20:51 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 267  Message: 269

Hi Earl, Don't have a clue about the "Fast Lever" terminology. Looked very closely at the lever and didn't notice anything obvious. Perhaps it has the Jeweled cups for lower friction on the pin. Or something like that. Why not give Betsy a call to see if she can shed some light on it. 73, Milt k4oso

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com. [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 270. Re: [cw_bugs] "Fast lever"???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-06 19:05:11 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 267  Message: 270

At 11:20 AM 3/6/2007, k4oso@... wrote:
>Hi Earl,
>Don't have a clue about the "Fast Lever" terminology. Looked very closely
>at the lever and didn't notice anything obvious. Perhaps it has the Jeweled
>cups for lower friction on the pin. Or something like that. Why not give
>Betsy a call to see if she can shed some light on it.
>73, Milt k4oso

Well, I called, and asked.

She said she thought they were just trying to let a buyer
know that it was a fast bug. I asked if they did anything special
for the "FAST LEVER" designation, and she sounded like she hadn't
heard of that marking before. So I don't know.

Thanks all,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 271. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: "Fast lever"???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-06 19:28:56 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 267  Message: 271

Earl, After reviewing the Vibroplex Original Parts list, I concluded the Fast Lever just might be the Standard equipped with the Upper Trunion Screw w/jewel and the Lower Trunion Screw w/jewel. Each of these would add approximately $6.00 to the cost of the key, and at least theoretically reduce friction (increase speed) at higher speeds. Don't confuse these with the decorative ornamental red piece that sits on top of the mainframe. Milt k4oso

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com. [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 272. Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-07 16:31:05 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 272  Message: 272

Hi,

I have noticed a swing to my bug sending. Maybe I am worried about nothing. After all we use bugs to get away from the clinical sound of perfect code, don't we?

Here is the swing I am encountering. I can transition from a dash to dot with proper spacing between the elements. But when I transition from a dot to a dash, I tend to run them together. The dot to dash transition is still very easily heard by the ear. I use the CWGet software to graphically view my sending. The letter R is a good case in point. I can easily send di-dah-dit. However the first dot and dash are closer together than the dash and the second dot. The dash to dot transition is always fixed by the bug to matter how I fast or slow I send the dash and press the dot side. When sending a dot and moving to a dash, I have attempted to slow down the transition timing manually, but it can produce a dash too long.

My bug is the Vibroplex Champion # 270463. It does have an Extendadot device on in. The dit rate is around 17 or 18 wpm. Of course the full character rate is up to the operator to send a dash 3 times the length of a dit.

I removed the Extendadot and ran the bug in the low 20s wpm. The letter R smoothed out quite a bit and became more symetrical. I am starting to think this a side effect of slowing the bug down. It does give my sending a distinctive sound. And CWGet can still decode it. But I can easily send a symetrical R with a straight key at similar speeds, without any struggle.

So is this common with a slowed down bug? I know this is a very subjective question as no two bugs are alike. And certainly no two fists are alike. The best remedy I have found is to slow down my fist action. I can do this without slowing down the sending. Sending a period character seems like good practice.

R is not the only letter affected. The letter L is also plauged by this swing rhythm. Also the letters V, Y, K and more are affected.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 273. Re: [cw_bugs] Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-07 18:32:43 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 272  Message: 273

Steve, I am so new at this I probably have no business responding. What I notice more than the space between the dot and dash is the length of my dash is not very consistent. So that is what gives mine a swing on some letters.

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 03/07/07 09:33:01 Mountain Standard Time, n6vl@... writes:
R is not the only letter affected. The letter L is also plauged by
this swing rhythm. Also the letters V, Y, K and more are affected.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 274. Re: [cw_bugs] Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-07 18:52:28 UTC
From: RONALD JOHNSON
Topic: 272  Message: 274

Hi Steve,
I recently added a Blue Racer to the
shack and I have a short piece of rigid plastic
tube which pushes over the end of the shaft
onto which I attached a small plastic knob
from a field strength meter that was discarded
a long time ago. I have noticed the same
effects as yourself. When sending a "v",
it tends to send 3 and 1/2 dots unless
I'm very careful !! Removing the "tamer"
cleans up the sending again.I've tried
various ways to slow it down a little but
everything seems to upset the bug's
action.I think the answer is to use it as
Vibroplex intended and just try and
improve my copying speed!
Regards,Ron g3xov

n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
Hi,

I have noticed a swing to my bug sending. Maybe I am worried about
nothing. After all we use bugs to get away from the clinical sound
of perfect code, don't we?

Here is the swing I am encountering. I can transition from a dash to
dot with proper spacing between the elements. But when I transition
from a dot to a dash, I tend to run them together. The dot to dash
transition is still very easily heard by the ear. I use the CWGet
software to graphically view my sending. The letter R is a good case
in point. I can easily send di-dah-dit. However the first dot and
dash are closer together than the dash and the second dot. The dash
to dot transition is always fixed by the bug to matter how I fast or
slow I send the dash and press the dot side. When sending a dot and
moving to a dash, I have attempted to slow down the transition timing
manually, but it can produce a dash too long.

My bug is the Vibroplex Champion # 270463. It does have an Extendadot
device on in. The dit rate is around 17 or 18 wpm. Of course the full
character rate is up to the operator to send a dash 3 times the
length of a dit.

I removed the Extendadot and ran the bug in the low 20s wpm. The
letter R smoothed out quite a bit and became more symetrical. I am
starting to think this a side effect of slowing the bug down. It does
give my sending a distinctive sound. And CWGet can still decode it.

But I can easily send a symetrical R with a straight key at similar speeds, without any struggle.

So is this common with a slowed down bug? I know this is a very subjective question as no two bugs are alike. And certainly no two fists are alike. The best remedy I have found is to slow down my fist action. I can do this without slowing down the sending. Sending a period character seems like good practice.

R is not the only letter affected. The letter L is also plauged by this swing rhythm. Also the letters V, Y, K and more are affected.

73,

Steve N6VL

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 275. Re: [cw_bugs] Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-07 19:35:44 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 272  Message: 275

Steve and Ci, From what I've heard on the air, neither of you has anything to be concerned about. You will be able to change your fist more to your liking as you gain experience on/control over that beast, the bug. Some degree of swing is in all our fists (whether we admit or not). You might try practicing sending words such as "etc" and "eternally". Send them at a speed which allows you to avoid getting sloppy, keeping the characters distinct from each other. These words help you to gain control by separating your dots from dashes. Its not a magic bullet, but the ultimate goal is the ability to control the key so its output sounds "right" to you. Also, try some practice sending individual letters versus words. That way when you send words, you're not stumbling from one character into another. I've found the name of the game on the bug is "control, control, control". My experience is that the more you practice, the more you will be able to make your cw sound the way you want it to. Right now, your sound is dictated to some degree by the key settings. Just keep at it. The sound of your cw is an extremely personal thing, so only you know what you want it to sound like. Just keep sending and emphasize the "sound" while avoiding too much analysis. Remember the old saying, "paralysis through analysis". Hope to work you both soon. 73, Milt k4oso

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com. [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 276. Re: [cw_bugs] Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-07 21:50:51 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 272  Message: 276

Thanks, Milt. Has anyone on this list used the GN-207A available from Morse Express at $350.00? Maybe that would make my fist sound right. Seriously, is it worth the money?

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 03/07/07 12:36:57 Mountain Standard Time, k4oso writes:
Hope to work you
both soon.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 277. Re: Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 01:08:29 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 272  Message: 277

The thing that makes your fists sound "right" is you, although a crappy bug doesn't help matters. The tamest bug out there is a Lightning Bug and not very expensive either. Additional flat bar weights are available from VB if you need to slow it down.

I'm not sure I'd worry about it at the moment. A "swing" of some sort is like handwriting and expresses your personality. Now a really bad swing with extra dits thrown in gratutitously can be annoying, but I just smile and go on copying anyway. Nicer to my ears that a cookie-cutter keyer any day.

Save your money and keep at it.

73 and 72 and all that,

Grover K7TP
W6MGY - The Pacific Arc and Spark Society

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, BPCI <BPCI@...> wrote:
>
> Thanks, Milt. Has anyone on this list used the GN-207A available from Morse Express at $350.00? Maybe that would make my fist sound right. Seriously, is it worth the money?
>

# 278. Interesting prosigns

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 02:00:59 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 272  Message: 278

At 06:08 PM 3/7/2007, P. Grover Cleveland wrote:
>Now a really bad swing with extra dits thrown in gratutitously can
>be annoying,

I saw this and immediately thought of some of the prosigns
I've come across while studying for the T2. The strangest one (to
me, anyway) is used, according to my study material, to break into a
transmission, on a QSK circuit -- BF. Send that a few times and you
start to wonder if you're getting too many dits! <g>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 279. Re: Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 03:32:50 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 272  Message: 279

Hello all fellow Bug ops. What works great for me on my 2 Originals '51 DeLuxe and '68 Standard and my Blue Racer Standard about '52 is what I call my "2 Cents Worth Tamer". I find a Alligator Clip that slides nicely on the Pendelium behind the damper I clip 2 pennies on the Alligator Clip and face the pennies up and down or sideways to fine tune the speed a little I find that takes you down a few extra WPM if someone wants you to QRS a little while sending on a Vibroplex Bug. You Can also clip the pennies closer or further away from the damper to fine tune your speed. I hope that helps you It works great for me.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 280. Re: Taming the swing...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 03:41:17 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 272  Message: 280

An aging ham who once worked for the Postal Wire refered to the sound of the bug as the "Lake Erie Swing."

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ve7bgp" <ve7bgp@...> wrote:
>
> Hello all fellow Bug ops. What works great for me on my 2 Originals
> '51 DeLuxe and '68 Standard and my Blue Racer Standard about '52 is
> what I call my "2 Cents Worth Tamer". I find a Alligator Clip that
> slides nicely on the Pendelium behind the damper I clip 2 pennies on
> the Alligator Clip and face the pennies up and down or sideways to
> fine tune the speed a little I find that takes you down a few extra
> WPM if someone wants you to QRS a little while sending on a Vibroplex
> Bug. You Can also clip the pennies closer or further away from the
> damper to fine tune your speed. I hope that helps you It works great
> for me.
> 73
> Gerry VE7BGP
>

# 281. slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 14:18:59 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 281  Message: 281

From my observation across (fifty years) of bug use...

* Additional weights so increase the mass of the pendulum as to make operating it both different and non-instructive. during professional use days that simply wasn't done even for learning.

* adding more weights doesn't slow the bug down much because they wind up being placed closer to the pendulum.

* The large diameter weights used by some Mac bugs and E F Johnson have a MUCH better effect on speed becauseit puts more weight further out on the pendulum.

* Wrapping solder around the wieght at the end of the bug will slow the bug down much more than adding a second weight.

Unfortunately, the large diameter weights are harder to come by, and the holes in them don't necessarily fit on vibroplex bugs.

Rather than extensions that add SO much mass and change the feel of the pendulum, or extra weights that do the same thing with relatively little effect on speed, I use the recent remake (by Tim Soxman) of the Hills Speed-changer. vibroplex sells them under the name, Varispeed.

The Varispeed uses one weight, and the device itself is about the equivalent of a second weight. it provides near instant speed changing by rotating the arm. It will slow the bug down way slower than second, third, or fourth weights because by rotating it the small weight can extend the length of the pendulum which does more than adding weight does. in so doing it does not add mass like extra weights or the extension arm.

the Varispeed is the way to go IMHO. Here is a Varispeed on my (restored) 1918 Vibroplex...

And the very best configuration of all is a Varispeed on the old U-shaped damper blue Racers, because without the damper in the way, the varispeed and its weight can rotate straight back and slow the bug down to a crawl.

A few other comments on bug speed...

The slowest American bugs I have encountered are the 1930's vintage Macs.

The slowest bug I have ever encountered, by far, is the Australian Simplex-Auto. This is a right-angle bug that uses a release mechanism like Coffe's Mecograph of the early 1900's. It will go ten wpm, heaven forbid.

Western Union established a fixed speed of 28 wpm. I have found old bugs with the weight soldered in place at this speed.

With best wishes,

FD - kt5x

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 282. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 16:09:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 281  Message: 282

At 07:18 AM 3/8/2007, Trail Fox wrote:

<snip>
>the Varispeed is the way to go IMHO. Here is a Varispeed on my
>(restored) 1918 Vibroplex...
><snip>
>[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Ah -- I have changed the list setting so that attachments
can come through. First time it becomes a problem, though, I'll
change it back.

Fred, please send the picture again -- it sounds interesting.

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 283. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-08 17:29:33 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 281  Message: 283

Great stuff, Fred Only 2 years of bug use here, but I agree that the Vari-Speed is everything you say,...and more. I love mine. 73, Milt k4oso

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com.

# 284. varispeed photo resent

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-09 13:59:21 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 284  Message: 284
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The varispeed, or speed-changer as it was first called, is shown here on a restored 1918 Original. The bug had been a ship's key and was hopelessly rusted out. I decided to restore the base in the style of the ATOZ bugs of the time since I was unlikely to ever see one. That is why it is green with gold and blue stripes. I also recreated the decal used on that era Vibroplex bugs.

I will take a photo of the varispeed on an old Racer, showing how with a U-shaped damper, it can lean straight back. In that configuration, speed can be reduced into the 12 wpm range!

Would people be interested in me writing about mainsprings on various aged (Vibroplex) bugs?

73,

Fred - kt5x

# 285. vari-speed photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-09 14:27:55 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 285  Message: 285
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Here the vari-speed is shown on a 1917 Number 4 or Blue Racer. On Racers with the U-shaped damper, the weight can be directed straight back producing very slow dits. Unlike an extender, however, the vari-speed is useful even after you master the bug as it provides the quickest and most convenient way to control the speed from as slow as 12 wpm to a great as 50 wpm depending upon whether you use one weight or two, and just how you set up the mountings. The blue finish on this bug is original, by the way. The finger pieces are home-made from African Blackwood often mistaken for ebony. I have the orginal finger pieces, but the wood is more pleasant to touch than the fibrous material used at that time.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 286. Simplex-Auto photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-09 14:34:55 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 286  Message: 286
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

This may be the bug capable of the slowest speed. The Simplex-Auto was made from the early 20's through the forties. It uses a release mechanism like the Coffe Mecographs. This produces a very different feel, operation is more deliberate. The dits run from about 10 wpm to about 28 wpm.

The bug was mostly used by the Australian equivalent to Western union, the government postal agency. When the bugs were no longer being used to send telegrams, about the 1970's, the postal department threw them out, except for a few which operators took as souvenirs. Those are the survivors still around today. They seem to sell for between $500 and $750 when you can find one at all. I traded with an Australian collector.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 287. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-10 18:20:35 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 281  Message: 287

Fred,

50 years of using bugs! I will be 50 years on the planet in a few months, hi hi.

So are you saying the Vari-Speed is better than an Extendadot? In any case I will be comparing the two within a few days. I ordered the Vari-Speed based on your comments.

I compared my Extendadot with my original mod and they do feel different. Just reading your comments makes me want to try other ideas while waiting on the Vari-Speed. I have two weights, the 1 oz and the 0.8 oz. I could bolt them together, side by side, at the end of the arm to see the difference. Putting both weights directly on the arm was not a good experience.

I keep wondering about different bugs other than the Champion. The Champion is supposed to be a low end bug. Is this correct? I need to look or eBay or eHam.net for other bugs. I was looking at a J-36 on eBay last week and the price really shot up. I prefer to stick with Vibroplex because of parts.

I just found yet another straight key, the Navy Flame-Proof. This one is in mint condition and blows away other straight keys rivaling my Swedish Pump key clone. OK straight keys are off topic. But I like to brag about a good one.

Now if they would make a nice mini-bug! Bug aren't portable. The Navy Flame-Proof is small enough to go portable.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 288. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-10 18:48:28 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 281  Message: 288

Steve,

Will you provide the model number of your Navy flame-proof key? My reason for asking is that my CMI 26003A is considered flame-proof by some folks. It may be, but I'd sure hate to test it.

73 de Scott n7net

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Fred,
>
> 50 years of using bugs! I will be 50 years on the planet in a few
> months, hi hi.
>
> So are you saying the Vari-Speed is better than an Extendadot? In
any
> case I will be comparing the two within a few days. I ordered the
> Vari-Speed based on your comments.
>
> I compared my Extendadot with my original mod and they do feel
> different. Just reading your comments makes me want to try other
> ideas while waiting on the Vari-Speed. I have two weights, the 1 oz
> and the 0.8 oz. I could bolt them together, side by side, at the
end
> of the arm to see the difference. Putting both weights directly on
> the arm was not a good experience.
>
> I keep wondering about different bugs other than the Champion. The
> Champion is supposed to be a low end bug. Is this correct? I need
> to look or eBay or eHam.net for other bugs. I was looking at a J-36
> on eBay last week and the price really shot up. I prefer to stick
> with Vibroplex because of parts.
>
> I just found yet another straight key, the Navy Flame-Proof. This
one
> is in mint condition and blows away other straight keys rivaling my
> Swedish Pump key clone. OK straight keys are off topic. But I like
to
> brag about a good one.
>
> Now if they would make a nice mini-bug! Bug aren't portable. The
Navy
> Flame-Proof is small enough to go portable.
>
> 73,

>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 289. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-10 20:35:10 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 281  Message: 289

Scott,

My number is CJB260003A.

I really like it, but even after tightening the makeshift base down with a clamp, the Hi-Mound HK-802, a Swedish Pump key clone, is a better key. Right now my Flame-Proof is second runner up.

I don't like the knob on the Flame-Proof. I even changed the knob on my HK-802 to a Vibroplex knob and skirt for their straight key. If I put that knob and skirt on the Flame-Proof, its ranking might go up for me. But the threads don't match. My fist is very picky when it comes to knobs, so I am finding. Its funny, but my arm tires from sending with the Flame-Proof and other American style straight keys. But my arm tires from holding it up for the HK-802, not so much from sending.

I guess that is why we try bugs. I really like straight keys, but am concluding that no straight key will ever be as comfortable as a bug. My fist is better with a good straight key. But my Champion is more more comfortable. With practice my bug fist will improve. Gee now I need to try other bugs, hi hi.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 290. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-10 22:09:02 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 281  Message: 290

Hi Steve,

From what I found, quickly, your CJB is a Bunnell key. You probably already know that Bunnell was Gen. McCellen't telegrapher during the Civil War.

He must have had lots of help getting into the key business after the war.

They had to string lots of wire every night so the General could send his reports, but I think they relied heavily on WigWag from the hill tops. But I don't know that as a fact.

My poor old CMI wasn't even in the list.

It's mounted on a chunck of brass 3" x 7" x 1". It doesn't go anywhere. It was on sale at a hamfest about 15 years ago for $45. I finally turned my pockets inside out and took it home for $27.50. It's still my favorite.

73 de Scott n7net

-- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Scott,
>
> My number is CJB260003A.
>
> I really like it, but even after tightening the makeshift base down
> with a clamp, the Hi-Mound HK-802, a Swedish Pump key clone, is a
> better key. Right now my Flame-Proof is second runner up.
>
> I don't like the knob on the Flame-Proof. I even changed the knob
on
> my HK-802 to a Vibroplex knob and skirt for their straight key. If
I
> put that knob and skirt on the Flame-Proof, its ranking might go up
> for me. But the threads don't match. My fist is very picky when it
> comes to knobs, so I am finding. Its funny, but my arm tires from
> sending with the Flame-Proof and other American style straight
keys.
> But my arm tires from holding it up for the HK-802, not so much
from
> sending.
>
> I guess that is why we try bugs. I really like straight keys, but
am

> concluding that no straight key will ever be as comfortable as a
bug.
> My fist is better with a good straight key. But my Champion is more
> more comfortable. With practice my bug fist will improve. Gee now I
> need to try other bugs, hi hi.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 291. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-10 23:14:14 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 291

I agree with KT5X completely, although I'd like to add one correction and a comment.

The "FYO" paddle and Vari-Speed were invented by Joseph A. Hills (W8FYO) of Dayton, Ohio - I remember the FYO key being offered for sale in the early 1960s and I remember seeing one at Vernon, CT at a FOC meeting in the late 1970s.

Joe's patent on the FYO was later licensed to Bencher. (At least this is what I remember). Around 1980, HAMCO from California introduced a variation on the FYO key using dual levers and pin support of the movement plates which were coupled to finger pieces (paddles). Peter Garsoe, owner of Vibroplex, bought out the rights of the HAMCO paddle in the early 1980s. Vibroplex introduced the "Brass Racer" which was a exact copy of the HAMCO paddles.

Patent number: 3166638
Filing date: Jan 30, 1962
Issue date: Jan 19, 1965
Inventor: Joseph A. Hills

Hills device that showed down the semi-automatic key was called a "Varispeed" by him - he may have had an earlier name.

I do not see a patent issued to Hills for the varispeed.

WU and Tropical Radio Telegraph (radio) and others had time/motion studies done for telegraphers.

The optimum speed for radiotelegraphy was found by Tropical Radio Telegraph, later and currently traded under the name of TRT was found to be 27 wpm.

Western Union (WU) being a company that used American Morse instead of International Morse (radio code) used a code which was faster than the International Morse Code. Thus I assume Fred KT5X has measured the radio speed of these bugs with the fixed weights. He says he measured 28 wpm. This speed would have been greater in words per minute in American Morse.

(I'm not trying to nit pick, Fred.)

I would assume that the optimum traffic speed for telegraphy would have been approximately the same for wire and radio - I know based on conversations with Normal Richardson of TRT (Slidell, LA) and others that TRT did multiple tests on this at 27 wpm and found that even an increase to 28 wpm would cause the revenues of the circuits to become

lower as more time was required for repeats that cancelled out the speed increase.

It was interesting that the operator who consistently was the #1 revenue producer for TRT at Slidell Radio / WNU was Frank Estrada, his sine was FE and he sent only with a straight key - 18 to 20 wpm. He came well ahead of everyone else in traffic count and revenue. No one else was even close.

Kind of like the tortoise and the hare - fast isn't always the most efficient.

73

David Ring
N1EA

On 3/8/07, Trail Fox <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>
> From my observation across (fifty years) of bug use...
>
> * Additional weights so increase the mass of the pendulum as to make operating it both different and non-instructive. during professional use days that simply wasn't done even for learning.
>
> * adding more weights doesn't slow the bug down much because they wind up being placed closer to the pendulum.
>
> * The large diameter weights used by some Mac bugs and E F Johnson have a MUCH better effect on speed becauseit puts more weight further out on the pendulum.
>
> * Wrapping solder around the wieght at the end of the bug will slow the bug down much more than adding a second weight.
>
> Unfortunately, the large diameter weights are harder to come by, and the holes in them don't necessarily fit on vibroplex bugs.
>
> Rather than extensions that add SO much mass and change the feel of the pendulum, or extra weights that do the same thing with relatively little effect on speed, I use the recent remake (by Tim Soxman) of the Hills Speed-changer. vibroplex sells them under the name, Varispeed.
>
> The Varispeed uses one weight, and the device itself is about the equivalent of a second weight. it provides near instant speed changing by rotating the arm. It will slow the bug down way slower than second, third, or fourth weights because by rotating it the small weight can extend the length of the pendulum which does more than adding weight does. in so doing it does not add mass like extra weights or the extension arm.

>
> the Varispeed is the way to go IMHO. Here is a Varispeed on my (restored) 1918 Vibroplex...
>
> And the very best configuration of all is a Varispeed on the old U-shaped damper blue Racers, because without the damper in the way, the varispeed and its weight can rotate straight back and slow the bug down to a crawl.
>
> A few other comments on bug speed...
>
> The slowest American bugs I have encountered are the 1930's vintage Macs.
>
> The slowest bug I have ever encountered, by far, is the Australian Simplex-Auto. This is a right-angle bug that uses a release mechanism like Coffe's Mecograph of the early 1900's. It will go ten wpm, heaven forbid.
>
> Western Union established a fixed speed of 28 wpm. I have found old bugs with the weight soldered in place at this speed.
>
> With best wishes,
>
> FD - kt5x
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>
>

# 292. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-11 04:53:06 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 292
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 293. varispeed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-11 20:52:04 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 293  Message: 293
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

DR knows of what he speaks when saying that Hills was the first to introduce the varispeed. I think that was about 1951.

And I did not measure the speed of the dits of the bug with the weight soldered to it, only estimated it, and certainly would be most fortunate if my estimate came within a mere 1 wpm, hi.

To steve, yes, I think the varispeed is better for slowing a bug down, and for just plain using a bug than the pendulum extension.

but i don't share your enthusiasm for a straight key. Please do have at it, but for me, Morse becomes laborious below about 25 wpm because it loses its language characteristic and returns to being a cipher. Since I can't make 25 wpm Cw with a straight key for more than a few minutes, it is a bug and a pddle for me.

DR, I coveted the original FYO paddle when I was a youngster, so much so, that I made my own rendition of it. my rendition, from the 1963 QST article, was a dual lever, and possibly the first dual lever version of the FYO's idea, I don't know. It was 1963 well before Bencher, and before FYO produced the paddle. I still have that paddle, and other than being light because I built it on a walnut base, it works very well.

The wood was cut by hand. The levers were hand cut with a hacksaw, and bent in a vise. The contact posts borrowed from a J-36. The pins supporting the levers are nails filed to a point. The ratio from pivot to contact versus pivot to finger piece is 1.5:1 such that the gap is made to feel smaller than it really is. The key can be adjusted to where you can not feel it move.

73,

FD kt5x

# 294. old hills varispeed on ebay ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-11 21:34:38 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 294  Message: 294

160094144480

# 295. Re: [cw_bugs] old hills varispeed on ebay ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-11 22:36:04 UTC
From: john
Topic: 294  Message: 295

```
----- Original Message -----
From: Trail Fox
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2007 5:34 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] old hills varispeed on ebay ?

160094144480

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.446 / Virus Database: 268.18.8/718 - Release Date: 3/11/2007 9:27 AM
```

# 296. Re: [cw_bugs] old hills varispeed on eBay ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-12 17:20:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 294  Message: 296

At 03:34 PM 3/11/2007, Trail Fox wrote:

>160094144480

I don't know if this particular Varispeed is an old one or
not, but I've noticed that you can now get a Varispeed for a flat
pendulum directly from Vibroplex.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 297. Re: [cw_bugs] varispeed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 02:29:44 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 293  Message: 297

Fred - everything you do is so beautiful!

Regarding 25 wpm on a hand key, you're fast! I still have a challange out for anyone who can produce a recording of 25 wpm on a hand key.

So far, I've had three people who said they could do it, but when they measured it, they found that they could not.

I have a commercial first-class telegraph license which was tested to send and receive at 25 wpm. Fortunatly for me the USA is the only country where we are allowed to use a semi-automatic key for sending and a typewriter for receiving. The other code tests (20 wpm code groups) have to be done by hand with pen and hand key.

I learned the virtues of a hand key by operating on 500 kHz during QRN. You can really control a hand key like you can't control any other key other than a sideswiper.

One ex RAF CW operator applied for a job as a maritime sparks - and he was turned down because he couldn't send like a merchant operator - we prolong our dots so they can make it through the QRN.

73

DR
On 3/11/07, Trail Fox <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> DR knows of what he speaks when saying that Hills was the first to introduce the varispeed. I think that was about 1951.
>
> And I did not measure the speed of the dits of the bug with the weight soldered to it, only estimated it, and certainly would be most fortunate if my estimate came within a mere 1 wpm, hi.
>
> To steve, yes, I think the varispeed is better for slowing a bug down, and for just plain using a bug than the pendulum extension.
>
> but i don't share your enthusiasm for a straight key. Please do have at it, but for me, Morse becomes laborious below about 25 wpm because it loses its language characteristic and returns to being a cipher. Since I can't make 25 wpm Cw with a straight key for more than a few minutes, it is a bug and a pddle for me.
>
> DR, I coveted the original FYO paddle when I was a youngster, so much so, that I made my own rendition of it. my rendition, from the 1963 QST article, was a dual lever, and possibly the first dual lever version of the FYO's idea, I don't know. It was 1963 well before Bencher, and before FYO produced the paddle. I still have that paddle, and other than being light because I built it on a walnut base, it works very well.

>
> The wood was cut by hand. The levers were hand cut with a hacksaw, and bent in a vise. The contact posts borrowed from a J-36. The pins supporting the levers are nails filed to a point. The ratio from pivot to contact versus pivot to finger piece is 1.5:1 such that the gap is made to feel smaller than it really is. The key can be adjusted to where you can not feel it move.
>
> 73,
>
> FD kt5x

# 298. 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 13:28:01 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 298  Message: 298

Well, DR, I can, or could when reflexes were young and quick, produce some letters at that speed, but can not keep going! I can agree that nothing will get through the QRN to work top-band DX like a straight key, but I am not going to try to carry on a QSO with it for pleasure, hi hi.

As a teen I passed my Third Class Commercial Telegrapher, which was 16 wpm code groups. It was so easy for me that I took the cheap metal headfones the FCC was using for the test, off, placed them on the table, and chatted with the examiner while copying. But I never used the license, just took it for something to do of a Saturday. And it was fun to display it.

When I took my General, which was before that, it was just after Christmas and I brought my Christmas present which was a brand new chrome deluxe Original. When I pulled it out to send the 13 wpm test, the examiner chastised me, and I remember it to this day. "With a bug like that, kid, you better be able to send." I was OK until he singled me out like that, now adrenalin started my hand shaking and it took me a few seconds to settle myself down. "OK, kid, that's enough, you pass."

When I took my Extra, 20 wpm hand copy before the FCC, a secretary collected the copy from the applicants. I think it was laborious for her to search through five minutes of copy looking for a full minute consecutive, and she kind of insulted the group as she collected the papers. She didn't want to bother checking and asked, "is there anyone who actually thinks they might have passed?" I was annoyed and said, "lady, I didn't miss any." It was the calculus problems on the written that I was uncertain about, hi hi.

Taking exams from the FCC was a whole lot different from taking exams before VEC's, it was official, serious, mattered, and has provided lasting good memories.

73,

FD - kt5x

# 299. Re: [cw_bugs] 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 13:39:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 298  Message: 299

At 07:28 AM 3/13/2007, Trail Fox wrote:
>Taking exams from the FCC was a whole lot different from taking
>exams before VEC's, it was official, serious, mattered, and has
>provided lasting good memories.

Boy, you got that right!

I remember taking the 13 WPM for General in 1982. It was in
the FCC office in New Orleans.

That recording sounded like a machine gun! But I was
copying OK, until that darn pigeon landed on the window sill and
started making noise! Coo! Coo! I guess I should have put some of
that down on the paper! Hi!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 300. Re: [cw_bugs] 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 13:56:43 UTC
From: Makos327@worldnet.att.net
Topic: 298  Message: 300

---------- Original message ----------
From: "Trail Fox" <KT5X@...>

> Taking exams from the FCC was a whole lot different from taking exams before
> VEC's, it was official, serious, mattered, and has provided lasting good
> memories.
>
> 73,
>
> FD - kt5x

Amen! It WAS a whole lot different! I think the FCC folks went out of their way to be imposing. When you passed you were walking on air - when you failed, it felt like the whole world was dark and gloomy. But, they are good memories, either way!

Back in those days, I wished I could have been standing outside the FCC examination room with the anti-perspirant and Tums concession. I could afford that IC-7800 today!

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 301. Re: [cw_bugs] 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 14:11:40 UTC
From: Don Pullen
Topic: 298  Message: 301

In my other (professional) life, we used to call them "bureaucratic butt kickers", and "dedicated obstructionists". They're everywhere!

Don n3vy
Hell is empty, and all the devils are here. - Shakespeare

----- Original Message -----
From: Makos327@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 9:56 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] 25 wpm handkey

---------- Original message ----------
From: "Trail Fox" <KT5X@...>

> Taking exams from the FCC was a whole lot different from taking exams before
> VEC's, it was official, serious, mattered, and has provided lasting good
> memories.
>
> 73,
>
> FD - kt5x

Amen! It WAS a whole lot different! I think the FCC folks went out of their way to be imposing. When you passed you were walking on air - when you failed, it felt like the whole world was dark and gloomy. But, they are good memories, either way!

Back in those days, I wished I could have been standing outside the FCC examination room with the anti-perspirant and Tums concession. I could afford that IC-7800 today!

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 302. Re: 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 14:52:53 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 298  Message: 302

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Trail Fox" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Well, DR, I can, or could when reflexes were young and quick, produce some letters at that speed, but can not keep going! I can agree that nothing will get through the QRN to work top-band DX like a straight key, but I am not going to try to carry on a QSO with it for pleasure, hi hi.
>
> As a teen I passed my Third Class Commercial Telegrapher, which was 16 wpm code groups. It was so easy for me that I took the cheap metal headfones the FCC was using for the test, off, placed them on the table, and chatted with the examiner while copying. But I never used the license, just took it for something to do of a Saturday. And it was fun to display it.
>
> When I took my General, which was before that, it was just after Christmas and I brought my Christmas present which was a brand new chrome deluxe Original. When I pulled it out to send the 13 wpm test, the examiner chastised me, and I remember it to this day. "With a bug like that, kid, you better be able to send." I was OK until he singled me out like that, now adrenalin started my hand shaking and it took me a few seconds to settle myself down. "OK, kid, that's enough, you pass."
>
> When I took my Extra, 20 wpm hand copy before the FCC, a secretary collected the copy from the applicants. I think it was laborious for her to search through five minutes of copy looking for a full minute consecutive, and she kind of insulted the group as she collected the papers. She didn't want to bother checking and asked, "is there anyone who actually thinks they might have passed?" I was annoyed and said, "lady, I didn't miss any." It was the calculus problems on the written that I was uncertain about, hi hi.
>
> Taking exams from the FCC was a whole lot different from taking exams before VEC's, it was official, serious, mattered, and has provided lasting good memories.
>
> 73,
>
> FD - kt5x
>

# 303. Re: 25 wpm handkey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 15:08:58 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 298  Message: 303

Only 25 wpm???

Well actually I am not bragging on my own behalf. Rather I will brag on behalf of a CW giant I knew in my teens. Harry Turner W9YZE, SK since 1992, holds the straight key sending record at 35 wpm. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morse_code and search the page for his call. I talked to him a numerous times on a local repeater back in mid 1970s as a teenager. I heard a local talk how he would get on 40 meters with a straight key and smoke would fly, hi hi.

If Harry were still around, I'd sure lean on him as an elmer. By 1976, I remember seeing him at the club hamfest and he already had thick glasses. I wonder how long he stayed on the air after that.

Also try http://www2.arrl.org/w1aw/1995-arlx011.html and http://www.socorroara.org/newsletters/9503.html. Just do a Google search on his call.

I thought I'd tossed that in and stir the pot a little!

I can send up about 20 to 22 wpm with my straight keys, at least with the flameproof and HK-802. But my copy is nowhere near that level.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 304. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 15:19:21 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 281  Message: 304

OK, I got the Vari-Speed yesterday. Yes it feels different from the Extendadot at the same speed. I think it takes less energy from the thumb to produce dots. This is too bad because I think the Extendadot is easier to install and remove. The Vari-Speed needs an allen wrench. I could loose a free lunch, hi hi. The allen won't be far behind.

The Vari-Speed does give a wider speed range. I put the 1 oz weight on it instead of the 0.8 oz. I didn't clock it, but I think it gets down to 15 wpm with the position I tried. It might goes lower, but 15 wpm is too slow. I general prefer 17 wpm. I can rotate the Vari-Speed backward and it gets very fast compared to the Extendadot. Yes I think the Var-Speed is the better choice. But kudos the Frank W7IS for custom building the Extendadot.

That said, I am better with the hand key at the lower speeds. But my arm tires some. I really like the Flameproof. But I arm tires more that with the HK-802 Swedish Pump key clone.

Thanks Fred for your comments!

73,

Steve N6VL

# 305. Bug Crasfman VK2DLF

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 17:05:42 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 305  Message: 305

Hello everyone.

Last sometime last year on another yahoo group (Brasspounders)

a post came across about the subject.

I have since ordered his bug and have some picture to share.

The Vibroplex is in the picture as reference.

<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq/Bug001/Bug001.html>

I wrote a review <http://www.eham.net/reviews/review/56945>

but wanted to share with the group how a clever design on the arm

allows for slower speed.

Speed taming and methods has been discussed recently and wanted to

show yet another solution provided by VK2DLF.

Although the pictures are bit fuzzy, the idea is clear, he

has provided extension pieces, along with weights, to extend

the length of the dot arm. I found that using both extension pieces

piggy back along with the weights really slow down the dot. So much so

that it's not practical. However, without any weights, well the speed

is beyond my sending.

Anyhow, if someone is contemplating on a purchase, give this one a try,

you be very happy with the results. Slightly less expensive then

my Vibroplex 100th Anniversary with jeweled bearings at the current
AUD exchange rate.

happy days to all

Fernando N2FQ
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq>

# 306. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 18:33:31 UTC
From: n1ea@arrl.net
Topic: 281  Message: 306

Are you sending with your two feet flat on the floor and both straight front to back, with your key in line with your sending elbow and arm (which are parallel to your feet) and the key positioned with the knob just at (or slightly over) the edge of the desk?

The Swedes use a C clamp to hold their keys to the desk (or screw the key to the desk with the screw holes alreay made in their keys). They grip their particular style of knob which is like an elongated upside droplet and nestle this knob on the pad of their forefinger and middle finger - or further down into the center of the palm and they grasp the keys three or four fingers and their thumb.

Elbows down!

Adjust key so that you can send one full minute of continuous dots. If the dots start to get too light, you have the tension too high. If the dots start to slurr or you stutter or keydown by error, the tension is too little.

If the interelement spacing is too little between dots - you have the key too close together. If you adjust the key closer and the dots become poor, you have adjusted the key too closely.

Usually the key is adjusted wider for slower sendng and narrower for faster.

73

DR

David N1EA

On 3/13/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> OK, I got the Vari-Speed yesterday. Yes it feels different from the
> Extendadot at the same speed. I think it takes less energy from the
> thumb to produce dots. This is too bad because I think the Extendadot
> is easier to install and remove. The Vari-Speed needs an allen
> wrench. I could loose a free lunch, hi hi. The allen won't be far
> behind.
>
> The Vari-Speed does give a wider speed range. I put the 1 oz weight
> on it instead of the 0.8 oz. I didn't clock it, but I think it gets
> down to 15 wpm with the position I tried. It might goes lower, but 15
> wpm is too slow. I general prefer 17 wpm. I can rotate the Vari-Speed
> backward and it gets very fast compared to the Extendadot. Yes I
> think the Var-Speed is the better choice. But kudos the Frank W7IS
> for custom building the Extendadot.
>

> That said, I am better with the hand key at the lower speeds. But my
> arm tires some. I really like the Flameproof. But I arm tires more
> that with the HK-802 Swedish Pump key clone.
>
> Thanks Fred for your comments!
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>

# 307. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 18:49:13 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 281  Message: 307

WOW, now that's a lot to remember.
I sure am glad I learned to send before I knew how complicated it is! 8-))
73
Tony, W4FOA

----- Original Message -----
From: n1ea@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 2:33 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Are you sending with your two feet flat on the floor and both straight
front to back, with your key in line with your sending elbow and arm
(which are parallel to your feet) and the key positioned with the knob
just at (or slightly over) the edge of the desk?

The Swedes use a C clamp to hold their keys to the desk (or screw the
key to the desk with the screw holes alreay made in their keys). They
grip their particular style of knob which is like an elongated upside
droplet and nestle this knob on the pad of their forefinger and middle
finger - or further down into the center of the palm and they grasp
the keys three or four fingers and their thumb.

Elbows down!

Adjust key so that you can send one full minute of continuous dots.
If the dots start to get too light, you have the tension too high. If
the dots start to slurr or you stutter or keydown by error, the
tension is too little.

If the interelement spacing is too little between dots - you have the
key too close together. If you adjust the key closer and the dots
become poor, you have adjusted the key too closely.

Usually the key is adjusted wider for slower sendng and narrower for faster.

73

DR

David N1EA

On 3/13/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> OK, I got the Vari-Speed yesterday. Yes it feels different from the
> Extendadot at the same speed. I think it takes less energy from the
> thumb to produce dots. This is too bad because I think the Extendadot
> is easier to install and remove. The Vari-Speed needs an allen
> wrench. I could loose a free lunch, hi hi. The allen won't be far

> behind.
>
> The Vari-Speed does give a wider speed range. I put the 1 oz weight
> on it instead of the 0.8 oz. I didn't clock it, but I think it gets
> down to 15 wpm with the position I tried. It might goes lower, but 15
> wpm is too slow. I general prefer 17 wpm. I can rotate the Vari-Speed
> backward and it gets very fast compared to the Extendadot. Yes I
> think the Var-Speed is the better choice. But kudos the Frank W7IS
> for custom building the Extendadot.
>
> That said, I am better with the hand key at the lower speeds. But my
> arm tires some. I really like the Flameproof. But I arm tires more
> that with the HK-802 Swedish Pump key clone.
>
> Thanks Fred for your comments!
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>

# 308. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 21:17:34 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 281  Message: 308

Steve, Turn your bug over, take a 2 inch piece of duct tape and tape your allen wrench to the bottom. Since removing and installing the Vari Speed is not something you will be doing often, it will rest safe and sound until you need it again. If you can't remember where you put it next time you need it, just ask me:-) 73, Milt k4oso In a message dated 3/13/2007 8:22:24 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n6vl@... writes: The Vari-Speed needs an allen wrench. I could loose a free lunch, hi hi. The allen won't be far behind.

**********
AOL now offers free email to everyone. Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com.

# 309. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-13 23:06:42 UTC
From: Don Pullen
Topic: 281  Message: 309

Kinda like my playing the 5-string banjo - I can't read music good enough to hurt my playing!

Amateur Don n3vy

----- Original Message -----
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 2:49 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

WOW, now that's a lot to remember.
I sure am glad I learned to send before I knew how complicated it is! 8-))
73
Tony, W4FOA

----- Original Message -----
From: n1ea@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2007 2:33 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Are you sending with your two feet flat on the floor and both straight front to back, with your key in line with your sending elbow and arm (which are parallel to your feet) and the key positioned with the knob just at (or slightly over) the edge of the desk?

The Swedes use a C clamp to hold their keys to the desk (or screw the key to the desk with the screw holes alreay made in their keys). They grip their particular style of knob which is like an elongated upside droplet and nestle this knob on the pad of their forefinger and middle finger - or further down into the center of the palm and they grasp the keys three or four fingers and their thumb.

Elbows down!

Adjust key so that you can send one full minute of continuous dots.
If the dots start to get too light, you have the tension too high. If the dots start to slurr or you stutter or keydown by error, the tension is too little.

If the interelement spacing is too little between dots - you have the key too close together. If you adjust the key closer and the dots become poor, you have adjusted the key too closely.

Usually the key is adjusted wider for slower sendng and narrower for faster.

73

DR

David N1EA

On 3/13/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> OK, I got the Vari-Speed yesterday. Yes it feels different from the
> Extendadot at the same speed. I think it takes less energy from the
> thumb to produce dots. This is too bad because I think the Extendadot
> is easier to install and remove. The Vari-Speed needs an allen
> wrench. I could loose a free lunch, hi hi. The allen won't be far
> behind.
>
> The Vari-Speed does give a wider speed range. I put the 1 oz weight
> on it instead of the 0.8 oz. I didn't clock it, but I think it gets
> down to 15 wpm with the position I tried. It might goes lower, but 15
> wpm is too slow. I general prefer 17 wpm. I can rotate the Vari-Speed
> backward and it gets very fast compared to the Extendadot. Yes I
> think the Var-Speed is the better choice. But kudos the Frank W7IS
> for custom building the Extendadot.
>
> That said, I am better with the hand key at the lower speeds. But my
> arm tires some. I really like the Flameproof. But I arm tires more
> that with the HK-802 Swedish Pump key clone.
>
> Thanks Fred for your comments!
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>

# 310. Rayco Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-14 00:00:38 UTC
From: Rem Roberti
Topic: 310  Message: 310

Can anyone provide a history of the Rayco bug which is currently being auctioned on eBay(110101862662)? There's close to 4 days left on the bidding and it's already at $462.

Rem
WA6CJK

# 311. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-14 04:21:29 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 281  Message: 311

Wow David,

This deserves some sort of reply.

I usually practice Yoga while sending. Just kidding!

OK here goes: I have the flameproof key C-clamped to the keyboard tray. My desktop is just too high. Interesting I resorted to the clammp idea over the weekend. It is easier than trying to build a heavy base. My arm rests on the swivel chair armrest resting on the forearm just in front of the elbow. Actually I think I need to raise the key a little higher on the keyboard tray. I might raise it another inch or two. Of course that will require a larger C-clamp. I could lower the swivel chair, but the keyboard will feel too high to type easily.

My opinion of the knob as evolved. I like it now. It felt odd at first. The sharp ridge really does not brother me. It could help my grip in the summertime if my fingers get sweaty.

Also I set the gap wider than I originally did. It is easier to send slower with this key than the HK-802. But I can just as fast with it. I can easily send under 15 wpm with this key if need be.

I find I have to set the tension on this key and most others quite light. I leave the tension a little higher I want to. I judge the tension by my sending.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 312. March RFTB Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-18 00:52:49 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 312  Message: 312

This Sunday evening, the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is March 25th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 313. Added some photos

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-18 17:10:30 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 313  Message: 313

I added a few photos of my Lionel J-36 in the photos section
of the group.

BTW, this bug is insanely fast for me! I guess I'm going to
have to find some more weight for it -- with the weight all the way
out, it must be close to 30 WPM!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 314. Re: Added some photos

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-18 17:26:12 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 313  Message: 314

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> I added a few photos of my Lionel J-36 in the photos section
> of the group.
>
> BTW, this bug is insanely fast for me! I guess I'm going to
> have to find some more weight for it -- with the weight all the way
> out, it must be close to 30 WPM!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
Earl,

Look at the Bug Slowdown Devices in the photo section and you'll see
the one I made for my Bunnell J-36. It will work on any flat arm bug.
All the parts and even the flat brass strip was available ar True Value
Hardware. Works great.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 315. Slowin' 'er down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-18 17:32:06 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 313  Message: 315

At 11:26 AM 3/18/2007, Don wrote:
>Earl,
>
>Look at the Bug Slowdown Devices in the photo section and you'll see
>the one I made for my Bunnell J-36. It will work on any flat arm bug.
>All the parts and even the flat brass strip was available ar True Value
>Hardware. Works great.

I was thinking about that -- so far, I have simply added
three big paper clips. At least now I can hear dits instead of a buzz! Hi!

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 316. Martin Research Flash Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-18 23:33:37 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 316  Message: 316

Buggies All,

I have added a photo of a Martin Flash key to my album. It is a bug not often seen, so I was happy to recently acquire it. It was made by Horace Martin's sons in the thirties.

See the album "K7TP Collection" in the Photos section.

Grover K7TP
Healer of all things Vibroplex

# 317. Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 18:32:22 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 317  Message: 317

These are PADDLES, not BUGS, right? I'm thinking that I'm
going to drop them a line to let them know, if somebody will confirm
what I am thinking.

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884597

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884763

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 318. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 18:38:48 UTC
From: Troy,W6HV
Topic: 317  Message: 318

You're correct, Earl. Both are Vibroplex paddles. One is single paddle
and the other the dual paddle.
73,
Troy, W6HV

Earl Needham wrote:
>
> These are PADDLES, not BUGS, right? I'm thinking that I'm
> going to drop them a line to let them know, if somebody will confirm
> what I am thinking.
>
>
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884597
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884597>
>
>
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884763
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=290095884763>
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>

# 319. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 18:41:47 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 317  Message: 319

You are correct, Earl..

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 03/19/07 12:33:43 Mountain Daylight Time, needhame1@... writes:
These are PADDLES, not BUGS, right? I'm thinking that I'm going to drop them a line to let them know, if somebody will confirm what I am thinking.

# 320. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 18:46:45 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 317  Message: 320

At 12:38 PM 3/19/2007, Troy,W6HV wrote:
>You're correct, Earl. Both are Vibroplex paddles. One is single
>paddle and the other the dual paddle.
>73,
>Troy, W6HV

At 12:41 PM 3/19/2007, BPCI wrote:

>You are correct, Earl..
>
>Ci Jones, WU7R
>FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
>SKCC #22, C#38
>NAQCC #306
>QRPARCI #12163

OK, I sent them the following message -- let's see just how
bad they want to argue! <G>

>This item, and item number 290095884763are not bugs, they are
>paddles. Even though the Vibroplex label has a picture of a bug on
>it, that is their trademark, and not a description of the item. 7 3 Earl

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 321. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 19:20:21 UTC
From: Makos327@worldnet.att.net
Topic: 317  Message: 321

Earl,

You are correct; but what you are seeing is not abnormal. When people who are "not in the know" hear or see the name "Vibroplex" they automatically call said device a "bug".

They do use the words "keyer" and "Iambic"; so they have some kind idea of what they have. I get a chuckle out of the folks who call a straight key a bug!

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the
very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 322. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 22:17:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 317  Message: 322
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 323. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: eBay Favorite Search: vibroplex case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-19 22:30:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 317  Message: 323

At 04:17 PM 3/19/2007, David Ring wrote:

>Only drop them a line if you're not bidding on it. Less people bid
>on things when they're described incorrectly - good for the buyer,
>bad for the seller.

Oops, guess I really blew it for everybody -- I already sent
the note. My thinking was that they were trying to get people to
believe these items were bugs and thus drive the price higher. I'll
hold my tongue in the future! <G>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 324. March NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-20 02:32:01 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 324  Message: 324

This Wednesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Thursday, March 22nd, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Wednesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
For the one making the highest score using an indoor antenna. At least 1/2 of the radiating portion of the antenna must be indoors.

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on March 28, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 325. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 18:40:43 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 281  Message: 325

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Now if they would make a nice mini-bug! Bug aren't portable. The Navy
> Flame-Proof is small enough to go portable.

Another problem with most, if not all, bugs being portable is that the
require a very horizontal, steady surface to work right. So
if "portable" to you means operating mobile, or on a crooked stump in a
campsite, I don't know of any bugs that aren't going to work poorly.

On day, my bug was driving me nuts. Over time, I had playing with the
adjustments little by little until I got something I pretty much
liked. Then one day, I tried it, and it felt CRUMMY! I grossly
adjusted the spring tensions and spacings to try to get it to what I
remember it being like. Finally, I picked it up to move it, and found
that it had been sitting on its cord the whole time, which just
slightly tilted it, but in a way that it remained steady. I set it
back down on its feet, and all was fine. Only I had to find my
original adjustments again!

BTW, I didn't find anything advertised as a particularly miniature bug
on the Vizikey web site. There was the 90 degree bug and the vertical,
but those were the only two bugs. I don't think either was described
as particularly small.

# 326. Buggin' it while mobile

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 20:29:32 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 281  Message: 326

At 12:40 PM 3/21/2007, ai4re wrote:
>Another problem with most, if not all, bugs being portable is that the
>require a very horizontal, steady surface to work right. So
>if "portable" to you means operating mobile, or on a crooked stump in a
>campsite, I don't know of any bugs that aren't going to work poorly.

Don't I remember reading somewhere that, possibly in WW2,
they used bugs in airplanes? Seems like I read they would change
speed as the airplane turned and caused more G's on the bug.

Or was I dreaming???
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 327. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 20:46:05 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 281  Message: 327

Hi,
The old Blue Racer is a nice, small bug, and it will fit almost anywhere.
In my opinion, a bug, even the big ones, can be operated portable.....one can
always find a way to make the key satisfactorily level. It only has to be
level side to side. Front to back is very forgiving.
I recall the story about a very flashy California ham of years gone by. It
is said he would ride around in his Cadillac Eldorado convertible, with the
top down, working mobile on his Vibroplex bug. And as the story goes, you
could tell when he went around curves because the centrifugal force would create
a change in his bug's sound. Moral of the story: You can make almost
anything work if you really want too. Just think of it as Xtreme Bugging:-)
73 and have fun,
Milt k4oso

********** AOL now offers free email to everyone.
Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com.

# 328. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 20:51:18 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 281  Message: 328
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 329. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 22:37:26 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 281  Message: 329

Hi Grover,
We may be looking in different places, but I constantly see Blue Racers for sale, but not the Les Logans. I have only seen a couple of the EF Johnson Speedx's, that came after and were made in the image of the Logans. As for price, I have 4 Blue Racers and paid an average of $125 or so for them. The most expensive one was $162. Don't have a feel for Les Logan prices.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 3/21/2007 1:54:08 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, clevelandg@... writes:

A Les Logan 515 is about the same size as the Blue Racer and generally easier to find, and much less expensive. It will slow right down. I've used it mobile before and it's fb.

Grover K7TP

********** AOL now offers free email to everyone.
Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com.

# 330. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 22:38:25 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 330
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 331. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 22:52:17 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 331

I guess I was wrong. K4VIZ has decided to make keys like ohn
Marachini Merrick, VE3AUB/VE3AWA made in the bedroom of his condo, but
the one that he didn't make was the little bug - which I thought was
the best of John's keys.

Here is a picture of one of John's bugs but this one is a lefty bug.
Same small size.
http://ca.geocities.com/bo167@.../bug.html

73

David N1EA

On 3/22/07, ai4re <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
>
> BTW, I didn't find anything advertised as a particularly miniature bug
> on the Vizikey web site. There was the 90 degree bug and the vertical,
> but those were the only two bugs. I don't think either was described
> as particularly small.
>

# 332. New Member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 23:18:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 226  Message: 332

I haven't done this before, but perhaps I should be
introducing new members when they join. Here's one -- please welcome
Steve, N0TU to the list:

>Comment from user:
>A ham 47yrs 95%CW & NTS for 10yrs & avid QRP last 25yrs. I've had runs
>at trying to use a bug and quit and now the age of 62 want to master it!
>Steve/n0tu

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 333. W6AM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-21 23:25:53 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 333  Message: 333

At 04:38 PM 3/21/2007, David Ring wrote:
>Here is a picture of his mobile setup
><http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html>http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html
>

Just wondering -- is that a Swantenna or a MasterMobile? Or
something else entirely?

7 3
Earl

P.S. I've been looking for a 20-meter MasterMobile for a while, if
anybody has one...

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 334. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 00:57:21 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 281  Message: 334
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

And here is a picture of one of Johm's right handed bug.
Tim

David Ring wrote:

> I guess I was wrong. K4VIZ has decided to make keys like ohn
> Marachini Merrick, VE3AUB/VE3AWA made in the bedroom of his condo, but
> the one that he didn't make was the little bug - which I thought was
> the best of John's keys.
>
> Here is a picture of one of John's bugs but this one is a lefty bug.
> Same small size.
> http://ca.geocities.com/bo167@.../bug.html
> <http://ca.geocities.com/bo167@.../bug.html>
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>

# 335. thanks for joining the list...all 3 of us

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 02:01:32 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 335  Message: 335
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 336. oops...wrong list, sorry

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 02:06:01 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 336  Message: 336
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 337. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 02:11:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 337
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 338. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 03:02:17 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 281  Message: 338
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 339. Re: [cw_bugs] W6AM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 03:10:02 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 333  Message: 339
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 340. Re: [cw_bugs] W6AM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 03:15:01 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 333  Message: 340
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 341. Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 13:53:12 UTC
From: Steve/n0tu
Topic: 341  Message: 341

Greetings I just join the group and I'm looking for some info? I'm looking to repair/restore an old Vibroplex (unknown model?) bug I uploaded a photo. A ham friend is donating to my 'relearning project' of how to use a bug (again). I tried about 10-yrs ago and gave up because of too many others pressures etc.

I see Vibroplex is still in business and they will refurbish for a fee? But does anyone know if the just sell the parts, screws, the missing jewel etc?

Is this model of bug good to learn on? Or should I just pop for a newer one?

Tks! Steve/n0tu

# 342. Speed-X (Was: slowing bugs down)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 15:57:53 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 281  Message: 342

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> A Les Logan 515 is about the same size as the Blue Racer and generally
> easier to find, and much less expensive. It will slow right down.
I've used
> it mobile before and it's fb.
>

I've done just enough research to get confused. When somebody
says, "Speed-X," I'm picturing a straight key. I'm not wrong. I don't
know if anyone else made them before, and if there's any connection to
the Speed-X name on the bugs, but they're most recently made by Nye
Viking in two different base models.

But then there are the Speed-X BUGS. Apparently, not are there only
multiple model numbers given the Speed-X name (of which the 515 was
one), but the name was used by at least two different companies -
Johnson and Logan.

I just share this in case someone else was confused by the "Speed-X"
name like I was.

I welcome more discussion from the knowledgable. Information on the
history of Vibroplex seems easier to come by, but I don't find much on
other key companies. What's the connection, if any, between Johnson
and Logan? What the connection, if any, between the Johnson/Logan
Speed-X bugs and the Nye Viking Speed-X straight keys?

# 343. Re: [cw_bugs] Buggin' it while mobile

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 16:33:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 343
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 344. Re: [cw_bugs] Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 16:47:25 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 341  Message: 344

Steve,
From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be obtained from Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call). No reason why this bug can't be your key for learning. The Original is hard to beat in its flexibility and adaptability to speed-slowing devices. Shine her up and start having fun. While you're waiting for the screw for your second weight, you can anchor it to the other one using your favorite kind of tape.(mine is DUCT)
73, Milt
In a message dated 3/22/2007 6:53:58 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n0tu.qrp@... writes:

Greetings I just join the group and I'm looking for some info? I'm looking to repair/restore an old Vibroplex (unknown model?) bug I uploaded a photo. A ham friend is donating to my 'relearning project' of how to use a bug (again). I tried about 10-yrs ago and gave up because of too many others pressures etc.

I see Vibroplex is still in business and they will refurbish for a fee? But does anyone know if the just sell the parts, screws, the missing jewel etc?

Is this model of bug good to learn on? Or should I just pop for a newer one?

Tks! Steve/n0tu

********** AOL now offers free email to everyone.
Find out more about what's free from AOL at http://www.aol.com.

# 345. Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-X (Was: slowing bugs down)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 16:20:26 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 281  Message: 345
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 346. Re: [cw_bugs] Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 18:42:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 341  Message: 346
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 347. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-22 20:44:05 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 341  Message: 347

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@... wrote:
> From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be obtained from
> Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).

You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.

# 348. Re:Speed-X (Was: slowing bugs down)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-23 12:00:48 UTC
From: J SNELL
Topic: 281  Message: 348

Hello there!
There are a few pictures etc. of Speed X keys and more
on page:
http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm

John Snell / G0RDO
www.morsemad.com

# 349. QRP Homebrewer Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-23 23:53:26 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 349  Message: 349

Just a reminder to everyone that this Sunday evening is the Spring edition of the Homebrewer Sprint.

While the contest is open to everybody, our purpose is to promote the use of homebrewed equipment, whether it be built from scratch; or a kit ..... it matters not. QSO points will be higher depending on just how much homebrewed equpiment you happen to be using.

The time is Monday morning, March 26th from 0000-0400 UTC; or on Sunday night, March 25th from 8:00 until Midnight EDT. Both CW and PSK-31 are encouraged, and the suggested frequencies for operation are the "watering holes" for QRP CW or PSK-31 on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters.

The suggested call is "CQ HB" and the exchange is RST / SPC / Power Out

For further contest details please visit:
http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 350. JunkBox Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-26 22:35:13 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 350  Message: 350

The SKCC group had a weekend sprit this past Sunday and the theme was to build your key on Saturday and use it on Sunday.

I built a bug. The darn thing works pretty good. It has an incredible speed range and a very light action. I've put a picture of it in the photos section under A Junkbox Bug.

The dot cantact does not have a cusioning spring but I'v not had any dot bounce. The weights are a couple of old push terminals for wire connections that I put a short stud between them so It would sandwich the brass arm. It's very quick to adjust, just a small twist and move it and twist it tight.

This was a really fun experience.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 351. Re: [cw_bugs] JunkBox Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-26 22:57:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 350  Message: 351

At 04:35 PM 3/26/2007, Don wrote:

>The SKCC group had a weekend sprit this past Sunday and the theme was
>to build your key on Saturday and use it on Sunday.
>
>I built a bug. The darn thing works pretty good. It has an incredible
>speed range and a very light action. I've put a picture of it in the
>photos section under A Junkbox Bug.

I saw that over on the SKCC group and I thought that's the
neatest thing I've seen in quite a while. Vibroplex is great, but
home-built just has its own "flavor", you might say!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 352. MRD - Maritime Radio Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-28 21:09:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 352  Message: 352

Maritime Radio Stations return in 14-15 April 2007!

See the RMD Web page for further info and updated stations at:
http://www.radiomaritimeday.org

Rügen Radio /DHS (MRD callsign DL2DHS)
Norddeich Radio /DAN (MRD callsign DL7DAN)
Boulogne Radio /FFB (MRD callsign TM1FFB)
ST Lys Radio /FFL (MRD callsign TM2FFL)
ST Nazaire Radio /FFO (MRD callsign TM3FFO)
Napoli Radio /IQH (MRD callsign IIOIQH)
La Spezia Radio /ICS (MRD callsign II1ICS)
Roma Radio /IAR (MRD callsign IIOIAR)
Genova Radio /ICB (MRD callsign II1ICB)
Trieste Radio /IQX (MRD callsign II3IQX)
San Benedetto Radio /IQP (MRD callsign IQ6SB)
Portisheadradio GKA (MRD callsign MOROA)
South Chatham Massachussets Radio /WCC (MRD callsign WA1WCC)
KPH / KSM Radio (MRD callsign K6KPH)
Tuckerton Wireless /WSC (MRD callsign W2WSC)
Gothenburg Radio /SAG (MRD callsign SK6SAG)
Praha Radio /OLP (MRD callsign OL32OLP)

73

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., Radio Officer, Chief, United States Merchant Marine (Ret.)
N1EA

# 353. MRD - Maritime Radio Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-28 21:09:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 352  Message: 353

Maritime Radio Stations return in 14-15 April 2007!

See the RMD Web page for further info and updated stations at:
http://www.radiomaritimeday.org

Rügen Radio /DHS (MRD callsign DL2DHS)
Norddeich Radio /DAN (MRD callsign DL7DAN)
Boulogne Radio /FFB (MRD callsign TM1FFB)
ST Lys Radio /FFL (MRD callsign TM2FFL)
ST Nazaire Radio /FFO (MRD callsign TM3FFO)
Napoli Radio /IQH (MRD callsign IIOIQH)
La Spezia Radio /ICS (MRD callsign II1ICS)
Roma Radio /IAR (MRD callsign IIOIAR)
Genova Radio /ICB (MRD callsign II1ICB)
Trieste Radio /IQX (MRD callsign II3IQX)
San Benedetto Radio /IQP (MRD callsign IQ6SB)
Portisheadradio GKA (MRD callsign MOROA)
South Chatham Massachussets Radio /WCC (MRD callsign WA1WCC)
KPH / KSM Radio (MRD callsign K6KPH)
Tuckerton Wireless /WSC (MRD callsign W2WSC)
Gothenburg Radio /SAG (MRD callsign SK6SAG)
Praha Radio /OLP (MRD callsign OL32OLP)

73

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., Radio Officer, Chief, United States Merchant Marine (Ret.)
N1EA

# 354. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 354

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 355. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 355

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 356. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 356

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 357. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 357

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 358. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 358

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 359. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 359

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 360. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 360

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 361. Re: Newcomer query?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-29 04:50:47 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 341  Message: 361

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@ wrote:
> > From the picture, it appears the parts that are missing can be
> obtained from
> > Vibroplex (just give Betsy a call).
>
> You can find the matching products on the Vibroplex web site and
> download a parts diagram. Then you'll know exactly what to order.
>
Hello Steve

You have an Original DeLuxe and Vibrokeyer Paddle they look like they just need the contacts cleaned up and adjusted and the bug and paddle will look great with a clean up. I see one screw is missing on one weight you can pick up screws that look great on a bugs weights at Home Depot or a lighting store they sell replacement lamp 6-32 screws for lamps and they fit the Vibroplex weights. I use Mothers Chrome Polish to clean up the Chrome Parts and base. If you do need parts Yes Betsy is great. She looked after a contact installation on my '51 Original DeLuxe. A quick and easy "Bug Tamer" is what I call my 2 Cents Worth Tamer 2 pennies clipped with an Alligator Clip that slides on the Pendelium Shaft nicely. That slows my Blue Racer or Original DeLuxe to about 14 WPM. That would be a nice speed to learn on. The other key is a Paddle that requires a Keyer to make the Dit's and Dah's electronicaly. Most late model rigs have built in Keyers. Have good luck with your keys Steve.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 362. MRD - Maritime Radio Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-28 21:09:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 352  Message: 362

Maritime Radio Stations return in 14-15 April 2007!

See the RMD Web page for further info and updated stations at:
http://www.radiomaritimeday.org

Rügen Radio /DHS (MRD callsign DL2DHS)
Norddeich Radio /DAN (MRD callsign DL7DAN)
Boulogne Radio /FFB (MRD callsign TM1FFB)
ST Lys Radio /FFL (MRD callsign TM2FFL)
ST Nazaire Radio /FFO (MRD callsign TM3FFO)
Napoli Radio /IQH (MRD callsign IIOIQH)
La Spezia Radio /ICS (MRD callsign II1ICS)
Roma Radio /IAR (MRD callsign IIOIAR)
Genova Radio /ICB (MRD callsign II1ICB)
Trieste Radio /IQX (MRD callsign II3IQX)
San Benedetto Radio /IQP (MRD callsign IQ6SB)
Portisheadradio GKA (MRD callsign MOROA)
South Chatham Massachussets Radio /WCC (MRD callsign WA1WCC)
KPH / KSM Radio (MRD callsign K6KPH)
Tuckerton Wireless /WSC (MRD callsign W2WSC)
Gothenburg Radio /SAG (MRD callsign SK6SAG)
Praha Radio /OLP (MRD callsign OL32OLP)

73

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., Radio Officer, Chief, United States Merchant Marine (Ret.)
N1EA

# 363. Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 17:21:57 UTC
From: Steve/n0tu
Topic: 363  Message: 363

I hope I haven't upset some you Vibroplex puristest but my Original's chome was beyond restoration with it's deep pits and little viens of rust undermining the chrome. So I opted to sand it down and use some hammertone gray paint to finish off the base. I may have destoryed it's value for collectors? But I'm not a fan of chrome to begin with ...just to flashy for my taste. Considering what I paid for it to start with it's value to me has increased ten fold! Plus it's less likely to need dusting as often? (posted photo)

Cheers, Steve/n0tu

# 364. Bug Setup or Technique?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 17:45:13 UTC
From: Steve/n0tu
Topic: 364  Message: 364

On a different note, I followed the adjustment instructions from the Vibroplex site to setup my bug but I'm not happy with it's performance. After about 10 hrs of (off air) practice and I'm annoyed by several issues.

1. Can't seem to rid myself of those darn half dits! They really are the signature of a sloppy bug IMHO! I've been practicing the string of e,i,s,h,5 - 5,h,s,i,e letters to learn the timing on dits. But once I start combining them with "l,f,p, and other letters I get some half dits that sound awlful! It's kinda of stutter sound! It's not all the time but just as I seem to relax and pick up my spacing? Is there an adjustment for this? Or is it technique?

2. Also once I get rolling along into sentence or two I notice I'm getting contact bounce on the DAH contacts. I'm a light touch sender. Could it be I need more tension on the DAH paddle? When I try this then my DAH timing isn't as good? Or again is it technique?

3. Finally I noticed afre an hour or so of practice I'm getting wrist pain and tingling forearm and elbow! I've used a keyer paddle for years with no noticeable effects. Since I'm starting with max weight (1-large + 1-small weight) fully extended to slow the bug down to ~14WPM I know it takes more energy to get the DITs started. Do some bugs require more wrist action than others? And is there such a thing as a 'light touch' bug??

Thanks for your advisement!

Cheers, Steve/n0tu

# 365. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Setup or Technique?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 18:19:06 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 364  Message: 365

Steve,

About 90% of stuttering dits are caused by dirty contacts somewhere along the circuit pathway, misalignment of the face of the contacts (they should hit face to face completely. The angle can be adjusted by turning the contact posts slightly (remember to tighten afterwards!) and the vertical alignment can be adjusted by adjusting the height of the lever (loosen the set-screw at the bottom of the main frame and adjust the position by the top screw and the bottom screw (hidden inside a hole), then tighten the set screw. (You'll need a long screwdriver to do loosen and tighten the set screw.)

The alignment of the dash contacts can be done by moving the dash contact on the lever by loosening the holding screw and moving to align, then fasten the screw.

But most of the problems are caused by poor contacts - remember the whole bug vibrates and if things aren't tight and well connected you get stutter - don't overlook the U shaped dot spring and the cleaning and tightness of the binding posts screws (the ones that fix the terminals to the base - not the nuts that hold the wires.)

73

DR
David N1EA

On 4/1/07, Steve/n0tu <n0tu.qrp@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>
> I get some half dits that sound awlful! It's kinda of stutter sound!
> .
>

# 366. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Setup or Technique?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 18:09:52 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 364  Message: 366
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 367. Re: [cw_bugs] Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 18:33:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 363  Message: 367
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 368. Re: [cw_bugs] Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 19:31:56 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 363  Message: 368

Steve,

It looks great! I'm going to have to post a few pictures of mine. I got my Original Standard off of eBay. It was from an estate sale; and the serial number dates the manufacture to 1949. The bug was used by a telegrapher for one of the Pacific Northwest railroads. It was stored in a garage in Seattle. The pictures didn't do the damage justice! Years and years of being stored in a damp and wet climate were not kind to this bug.

When I got it, I totally disassembled it and polished all the metal parts. Even the metal bands on the underside received a good polishing. They were so mucked up with tarnish that they were acting like resistors and not completing the circuit. The base was a mess! The original paint was flaking off. I gave it a good going over with a wire brush and lots of compressed air. To repaint the base, I chose Rustoleum black hammered finish, since I didn't totally strip the base. The nice, uneven finish completely covers up the unevenness underneath. It took me about 5 or 6 light coats to get it where I wanted it. I covered the Vibroplex name plate with clear packing tape and that kept it clean during painting.

I reassembled the bug and now have it on the operating table. It's the main bug that I use, even though I have several others. The sentimental value from having done a refurb makes it all the more valuable to me.

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 369. Re: [cw_bugs] Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 20:28:23 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 363  Message: 369

Steve,
Bottom line is, the key is yours to do with as you like. That's one of the great things about this hobby, ops can make the gear their own. Hope to hear it on the air sometimes.
ZUT 73,
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 3/31/2007 10:23:00 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n0tu.qrp@... writes:

I hope I haven't upset some you Vibroplex puristest but my Original's chome was beyond restoration with it's deep pits and little viens of rust undermining the chrome. So I opted to sand it down and use some hammertone gray paint to finish off the base. I may have destoryed it's value for collectors? But I'm not a fan of chrome to begin with ...just to flashy for my taste. Considering what I paid for it to start with it's value to me has increased ten fold! Plus it's less likely to need dusting as often? (posted photo)

Cheers, Steve/n0tu

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 370. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Setup or Technique?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-03-31 20:52:56 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 364  Message: 370

Steve,
If you can do the e i s h 5 drill without bounce, it might be technique. However, you might try more tension on the dot tension spring. Many times, that will clean up your dots. You could also try a drill comprised of "u f l d". Its pretty good "transition" practice.
Never heard of bounce on the Dash contact. It might be that your Dash contact spring is set too heavy and the amount of pressure you're exerting with your index finger is not sufficient to hold it closed. Try loosening the tension on that spring. If its already at its lightest, then you might turn the key so the "operator end" points slightly farther to your right than it is now. That will give you slightly more leverage on the Dashes. Good luck,
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 3/31/2007 10:45:34 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n0tu.qrp@... writes:

On a different note, I followed the adjustment instructions from the Vibroplex site to setup my bug but I'm not happy with it's performance. After about 10 hrs of (off air) practice and I'm annoyed by several issues.

1. Can't seem to rid myself of those darn half dits! They really are the signature of a sloppy bug IMHO! I've been practicing the string of e,i,s,h,5 - 5,h,s,i,e letters to learn the timing on dits. But once I start combining them with "l,f,p, and other letters I get some half dits that sound awlful! It's kinda of stutter sound! It's not all the time but just as I seem to relax and pick up my spacing? Is there an adjustment for this? Or is it technique?

2. Also once I get rolling along into sentence or two I notice I'm getting contact bounce on the DAH contacts. I'm a light touch sender. Could it be I need more tension on the DAH paddle? When I try this then my DAH timing isn't as good? Or again is it technique?

3. Finally I noticed afre an hour or so of practice I'm getting wrist pain and tingling forearm and elbow! I've used a keyer paddle for years with no noticeable effects. Since I'm starting with max weight (1-large + 1-small weight) fully extended to slow the bug down to ~14WPM I know it takes more energy to get the DITs started. Do some bugs require more wrist action than others? And is there such a thing as a 'light touch' bug??

Thanks for your advisement!

Cheers, Steve/n0tu

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 371. Re: Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 00:50:05 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 363  Message: 371

Thank you David for clarifying that WW2 Deluxe bug question. I wondered what bug I had since it is both "jeweled" and yet carrying a Lionel label. Why would the government want a "deluxe" version of that bug though?

Grover K7TP

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Steve,
>
> You basically have a World War 2 Deluxe.
>
> Deluxe refers mostly to the trunnion assembly - the Deluxe models had
> synthetic jewels in a cup on the end of the trunnion screws which matched an
> elbow rounded end of the main lever pin. The Standard models used instead a
> sharpened metal point with fit into a hollow cup.
>
> The WW2 Deluxe models had all the deluxe parts - but were painted bases as
> chrome was rationed durng the war. They also still had the top adjustment
> screw - which Vibroplex later eliminated because prying fingers would
> tighten up on them and break the jewels. They filled the hole with a red
> decorative plastic piece - which many incorrectly call a jewel.
>
> 73
>
> DR

# 372. Re: Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 02:23:41 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 363  Message: 372

Hello Steve

I hope I only post once this time, Wow does that Repaint job you did on that Bug look great Steve. Nice job on It. I have 2 Originals a '68 Gray Standard and a 1951 DeLuxe Chrome Job. I like the '68 as much as the '51 with Chrome. I set up a Bug Like this First I set up the Trunion Bearings for very slight play enough to see but not feel. Make sure the Jewells are clean on your DeLuxe. Lightly Grease the dash bearings. I always put the post with the best contact on the dit side. If the contacts do not line up loosen up the lock screw just behind the dash tension spring. Line up the dit contact tighten up the lock screw. Line up the dash contact. Now the most critical adjustment on a Bug is the Stop Screw for the damper has to be adjusted to just touch the damper, make sure the damper wheel turns freely and is not too loose. Don't slide the weight too far back it is stopped by the damper wheel. Adjust the dit stop screw so a 1/4 inch strip of Business Card paper just slides nicely in that gap about 16 thou of an inch. Now adjust the Dit contact for about 5 Seconds of repeating dits before going closed circuit. That should give your Dits good weight. The Contacts need to be shiny clean NO Files ALLOWED. I use cardboard from a business card then 20 weight Clean Paper. If the contacts are burnt or damaged by filing they will have to be replaced for the bug to give good dits. Adjust the dit tension for just enough tension you do not get Bounce Back and you get snappy return to the damper. Adjust your dash gap and tension to feel good to you and your bug should sound great. A well adjusted Bug should be almost as easy to use as a paddle. I hope that helps.
73
Gerry

-- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu.qrp@...> wrote:
>
> I hope I haven't upset some you Vibroplex puristest but my Original's
> chome was beyond restoration with it's deep pits and little viens of
> rust undermining the chrome. So I opted to sand it down and use some
> hammertone gray paint to finish off the base. I may have destoryed it's
> value for collectors? But I'm not a fan of chrome to begin
> with ...just to flashy for my taste. Considering what I paid for it to
> start with it's value to me has increased ten fold! Plus it's less
> likely to need dusting as often? (posted photo)
>
> Cheers, Steve/n0tu
>

# 373. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Was Deluxe now Standard(?)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 06:02:25 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 363  Message: 373
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 374. Contacts: Replace or Refinish?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 12:15:08 UTC
From: steve_n0tu
Topic: 374  Message: 374

Acting on the advice given here it appears my bug's contacts are in rough shape. It looks like someone has use either used a file or coarse sand paper on them? Instead of being flat and smooth they're domed with coarse scratches in the surface! Can these be replaced? How are the removed? Or how refinishing them? If so with what and how?

Tks, Steve/n0tu

# 375. deluxe to standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 14:21:51 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 375  Message: 375

Nice job refinishing that bug. It has been my view that a telegrapher can do anything he wants to his bug, and that is just part of the history of it. But a non-telegrapher who is collecting is a museum curator and that person's license is quite different. The destruction imposed by one AZROADRUNNER on historic pieces which he then places for sale on eBay are just a shame. But that is an opinion.

Nearly all Vibroplex bugs that I have seen on FleaBay that were made between about 1947 and 1953 were pitted and rusting. Chrome does not seem to deposit well on brass. An intermediate layer of nickel is required to obtain a lasting result. I suspect they tried to get away without the intervening step during those years. Best thing is not to buy that vintage unless one is planning on refinishing it!

the jeweled trunion screws from their introduction in 1939 until some point after the war, I don't knwo when, were made of garnet and shattered very easily. The later ones were and are cultured ruby which is MUCH harder and MUCH less likely to shatter. Garnet has a hardness of about 7 and often is found with invisible lines of cleavage from its natural birth. Artificial rubies are cultured corundum with a hardness of 9 which is many orders of magnitude tougher, and has no initial internal cleavage lines from earth pressures.

the World War II deluxe bugs with the so called battleship grey finish are all, regardless of model, famous for being especially fast. they often won't slow below 30 wpm. I think the cause is that the mainspring itself was chrome plated and I think that stiffened it up some.

The main spring on ALL new bugs is being chromed. This process is not only making them faster, but also seems to be dampening the action. The present levers, before being chromed exhibit good action as demonstrated by a friend of mine when he visited the plant in Mobile. But the new plated levers usually produce a very short (five to seven) dit series. for this reason new Vibroplex bugs don't seem to work very well. too bad.

I tried once to explain this to them, but my suggestion of not plating the mainspring was ignored.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 376. Re: [cw_bugs] deluxe to standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 16:03:16 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 375  Message: 376
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 377. Re: [cw_bugs] Contacts: Replace or Refinish?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-01 16:09:30 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 374  Message: 377
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 378. Re: JunkBox Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-02 15:54:24 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 350  Message: 378

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Don" <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> The SKCC group had a weekend sprit this past Sunday and the theme was
> to build your key on Saturday and use it on Sunday.
>
> I built a bug. The darn thing works pretty good. It has an incredible
> speed range and a very light action. I've put a picture of it in the
> photos section under A Junkbox Bug.
>
>

I still think that's pretty amazing, Don! Whoda thunk you could build your own bug without a machine shop, thousands of hours and dozens of iterations?

# 379. "New" Navy Flameproof - "right" way to connect cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-02 16:04:55 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 379  Message: 379

Hey SKCCers,

I am a proud owner of a "new" Navy Flameproof. The cable I have with it looks like an original but did not come connected to the key.

My first thought was to crimp on some lugs, but there's not a lot of room under the cover for lugs. I'm also curious as to where the insulation is cut back (it seems the outer insulation is too think to pass through the opening in the plastic cover.)

Can anyone tell me what the original, "correct" way of connecting the cable to the posts is? Anyone have a close-up photo of what's going on under the cover?

Is there a preferred orientation (without any other instruction, I'd consider the ring to be ground and connect that to whatever contact makes contact with the housing, if either does.

Oh....and how to people grip that funky knob when they use it? Do you actually grasp it, or just tap on the top with your index finger or what?

Thanks,
John
AI4RE

# 380. Re: "New" Navy Flameproof - "right" way to connect cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-02 16:08:47 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 379  Message: 380

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> Hey SKCCers,
>
> I am a proud owner of a "new" Navy Flameproof. The cable I have with
> it looks like an original but did not come connected to the key.
>

Oops. Meant to post this to SKCC since this is not a bug, but forgot
to change groups first. Sorry.

John

# 381. AI4RE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-02 16:22:22 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 350  Message: 381

I thought it was pretty neat yesterday -- I THINK it was yesterday, might have been Saturday, though -- I was cruising down the highway, tuned in to 14.048, when I heard some CW and there was AI4RE! Talking to somebody in 0 land, but I never did hear the call clearly enough, and as I was basically in 0 land myself, couldn't hear that station.

I just got a kick out of hearing a familiar call -- I would have tried for a contact, but I was driving the truck at the time.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 382. Vibroplex dust cover

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-03 15:59:46 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 382  Message: 382

Anybody use the Vibroplex dust cover on their Vibroplex bug?

My operating area collects a lot of dust, so it'd be nice to keep it off the bug, and I was looking to accessorize, but wondering if people found that it interfered with their fingers.

The front of the cover seems to encroach pretty far out the finger pieces.

Of course, I guess I could just take it off when I'm using it, but would be nice to know if I can use it on.

# 383. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex dust cover

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-03 16:39:19 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 382  Message: 383

John,
My dust cover is Muslin. Use a piece to cover the rig and the keys. Works great, inexpensive, catches dust, doesn't hold in moisture, and is off and on in a "swoop"!
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/3/2007 9:06:20 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, ai4re@... writes:

Anybody use the Vibroplex dust cover on their Vibroplex bug?

My operating area collects a lot of dust, so it'd be nice to keep it off the bug, and I was looking to accessorize, but wondering if people found that it interfered with their fingers.

The front of the cover seems to encroach pretty far out the finger pieces.

Of course, I guess I could just take it off when I'm using it, but would be nice to know if I can use it on.

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 384. Welcome

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-03 19:02:48 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 384  Message: 384

Two new users, welcome!

>Comment from user:
>After 20 years using a Bencher paddle, I finally own a bug. Two, in
>fact. It would be nice to touch base with other users and collectors
>regarding use and maintenance. Thanks. Jack - N0NV

>Comment from user:
>KD3VJ/ Matt in SW Pa.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 385. A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 14:27:30 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 385  Message: 385

Hi, All -

This is a sneak peek at a new toy - the fully-automatic version of the RotoBug, which I am calling the RotoTwin. Right now it is unwired, but preliminary bench tests went well. I may be able to get it on the air tonight. Pictures are posted in the Yahoo photo section.

Have been enjoying all of the recent posts - I'm mostly a lurker.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 386. Re: A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 15:03:55 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 385  Message: 386

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> This is a sneak peek at a new toy - the fully-automatic version
> of the RotoBug, which I am calling the RotoTwin. Right now it is
> unwired, but preliminary bench tests went well. I may be able to get
> it on the air tonight. Pictures are posted in the Yahoo photo
section.
>
> Have been enjoying all of the recent posts - I'm mostly a lurker.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

Rich,

What a marvelous peice of equipment. Your machine work and detail is
exceptional. Are all your bugs one off? Do you plan to manufacture them?

Could you explain where the energy comes from? Is it generated by the
paddles?

I hope to work you and the RotoTwin.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 387. Re: A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 15:30:14 UTC
From: ke5hls
Topic: 385  Message: 387

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> This is a sneak peek at a new toy - the fully-automatic version
> of the RotoBug, which I am calling the RotoTwin. Right now it is
> unwired, but preliminary bench tests went well. I may be able to get
> it on the air tonight. Pictures are posted in the Yahoo photo section.
>
> Have been enjoying all of the recent posts - I'm mostly a lurker.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
I've got to ask: what are the 2 discs for on the top? That thing looks
"way wicked!) Very well made & nicely polished.
Thanks & 73's
Robert, Ke5hls

# 388. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 15:31:05 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 385  Message: 388

Hi, Don -

Thanks for the comments. The fully-automatic bugs are still in development (there are 7 or so), so they are one-off for now. I am manufacturing, in a limited way, my "conventional" PaddleBugs, and am almost ready for the semi-automatic RotoBugs. I will be retiring this fall and hope to be able to "ramp up" the production.

As in all bugs, the energy ultimately comes from the paddles. In the RotoTwin, the rotors are under low force at rest and are "dragged" into motion by the paddle arms. (This is the "Vibroplex" approach). In some previous designs, the rotor (or pendulum) was magnetically tensioned at rest, and moving the paddle arm released it into motion. (This is the "Mecograph" approach). There are advantages to both approaches from an engineering point, and trade-offs as well, but the bugs come out sounding pretty much the same. With the magnetic tension design (and some tricks of wiring), there is no need for a damper mechanism, and the instruments are very quiet in operation.

Hope to be on 40 meters with the RT tonight or tomorrow.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

>Rich,
>
>What a marvelous peice of equipment. Your machine work and detail is
>exceptional. Are all your bugs one off? Do you plan to manufacture them?
>
>Could you explain where the energy comes from? Is it generated by the
>paddles?
>
>I hope to work you and the RotoTwin.
>
>73,
>Don, NN8B
>

# 389. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 15:39:13 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 385  Message: 389

Hi, Robert -

The two disks are actually the equivalent of the pendulum(s) in a conventional bug. They rotate back and forth a few degrees in a magnetic field to generate the dots and dashes, which are picked up by a magnetic reed switch. The brass weight on the arm attached to the rim of each disk can be moved in or out to change the speed. This system allows a wide speed range without having to adjust the duration of the dots, dashes, and spaces.

Yeah, it does look like "wicked", but not dangerous, I hope. I won't try to get it past an airport check-in, though.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----

>I've got to ask: what are the 2 discs for on the top? That thing looks
>"way wicked!) Very well made & nicely polished.
>Thanks & 73's
>Robert, Ke5hls
>

# 390. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 16:58:08 UTC
From: rwolf
Topic: 385  Message: 390

Thanks for the quick reply Richard,
I'm currently using a brass racer w/ my icom 706 as it has a keyer built in. Also, I'm only good to about 12 or 15 wpm so far. (slight nerve damage makes keying difficult at times)
Looks like it would be a great key for any speed.
Hopefully, by the time you have them available, I may be able to afford to try one.
It's a beautiful job; excellent machine workmanship.
Thanks for the pictures. Eye-candy for sure.
73's,
Robert
----- Original Message -----
From: Richard Meiss
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2007 10:39 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A new kid on the block

Hi, Robert -

The two disks are actually the equivalent of the pendulum(s) in a conventional bug. They rotate back and forth a few degrees in a magnetic field to generate the dots and dashes, which are picked up by a magnetic reed switch. The brass weight on the arm attached to the rim of each disk can be moved in or out to change the speed. This system allows a wide speed range without having to adjust the duration of the dots, dashes, and spaces.

Yeah, it does look like "wicked", but not dangerous, I hope. I won't try to get it past an airport check-in, though.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----

>I've got to ask: what are the 2 discs for on the top? That thing looks
>"way wicked!) Very well made & nicely polished.
>Thanks & 73's
>Robert, Ke5hls
>

# 391. Re: [cw_bugs] A new kid on the block

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-04 14:58:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 385  Message: 391
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 392. New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-07 14:21:16 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 392  Message: 392

At 06:32 AM 4/7/2007, Chuck Gehring wrote:
>Hi
>I would like to join CW BUGS group
>My name is Chuck Gehring, QTH Clarksville TN, My callsign is K2CG, I work CW
>only.
>73 Chuck

Welcome, Chuck -- we're glad you're here. We have a fun group here.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 393. WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-07 15:11:44 UTC
From: k2cig
Topic: 385  Message: 393

Rich,
Your Double Rotobug is brilliant!
I am still drooling over your single Rotobug.

Can you give us a ROM (Rough Order of Magnitude, cost$) for either the single or double Rotobug, plus or minus $200?

Do you have a manual for your Double Rotobug and will you post some of your manuals here for the CW Bugs Group? I always enjoy reading about your work and luv the photos.

Do you have a Table number for where you will be setup at Dayton?

73 K2CG
Chuck G.

# 394. Re: [cw_bugs] WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-07 16:42:55 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 385  Message: 394

Hi Chuck,
Welcome to the group. Guess Clarksville is now officially on the map with the Miss America winner!. Do you know Arnold Quarles.....music teacher there in Clarksville....old friend of mine.
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/7/2007 8:12:31 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, gehringc@... writes:

Rich,
Your Double Rotobug is brilliant!
I am still drooling over your single Rotobug.

Can you give us a ROM (Rough Order of Magnitude, cost$) for either the single or double Rotobug, plus or minus $200?

Do you have a manual for your Double Rotobug and will you post some of your manuals here for the CW Bugs Group? I always enjoy reading about your work and luv the photos.

Do you have a Table number for where you will be setup at Dayton?

73 K2CG
Chuck G.

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 395. Re: [cw_bugs] WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-07 19:05:19 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 385  Message: 395
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi, Chuck -

Glad to have you aboard - now you know what I've been up to. I don't have a way of posting the RotoBug manual, but I will send you a copy (attached PDF). I don't really have a good handle on the price yet. As for the RotoTwin, I am not yet convinced whether the complexity of a fully-automatic instrument is warranted in terms of the outcome; the gains in convenience are not all that great, the learning curve is steeper, and you have a bit less control over the "personality" of your sending. So we shall see.

I won't have a table at Dayton per se, but I will be at the QRP ARCI show-and-tell night (Friday, in the Fairborn Holiday Inn) with some things to let folks take a look at. Anyone is welcome to drop by.

My retirement is at the end of the summer, and I hope to have more time for things radio and telegraphic.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: k2cig <gehringc@...>
>Sent: Apr 7, 2007 11:11 AM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] WB9LPU Rotobug
>
>Rich,
>Your Double Rotobug is brilliant!
>I am still drooling over your single Rotobug.
>
>Can you give us a ROM (Rough Order of Magnitude, cost$) for either the
>single or double Rotobug, plus or minus $200?
>
>Do you have a manual for your Double Rotobug and will you post some of
>your manuals here for the CW Bugs Group? I always enjoy reading about
>your work and luv the photos.
>
>Do you have a Table number for where you will be setup at Dayton?
>
>73 K2CG
>Chuck G.
>

# 396. Bug setup

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-09 23:18:56 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 396  Message: 396

I just did a little test while adjusting up a Vibroplex Champion. When I set up a bug I usually set the dot contact to be closed when the lever stops vibrating and also check it with an analog ohmeter so the reading on the
scale is slightly past half way when it is sending dits.

This is supposed to give a better dit on radio. I never thought about how much difference it made until tonight. I noticed this bug's dit contact did not close but remailed open when the lever stopped vibrating. I adjusted it so it was just closed when it stopped vibrating.

Then when I was watching the wattmeter on my tuner while sending I thought I would try setting it both ways and see if it really made a difference. With the radio set to a 50 watt output, I set the bug's dit contact to be just open and sent a string of dits. the meter fluctuated at about 10 watts. The dits sounded OK to my ear. The I adjusted the contact to be just closed and sent a string of dits. The meter fluctuated at about 20 watts output and still sounded good to my ear.

From this, I would seem to think the stronger dits would do a better job especially under bad band conditions.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 397. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug setup

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-10 00:01:02 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 396  Message: 397
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 398. April NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-10 01:06:37 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 398  Message: 398

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday April 11th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
For the one making the highest score using an indoor antenna. At least 1/2 of the radiating portion of the antenna must be indoors.

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on April 17, 2007. So submit as soon as possible,

especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html (http://www.arm-tek.net/%7Eyoel//sprintrules.html)
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html (http://www.arm-tek.net/%7Eyoel//joinup.html)

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

# 399. April NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-10 01:15:42 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 398  Message: 399

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday April 11th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
For the one making the most 40 Meter QSOs.

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on April 17, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 400. Re: WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-11 01:00:17 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 385  Message: 400

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
> Glad to have you aboard - now you know what I've been up to. I don't have a way of posting the RotoBug manual, but I will send you a copy (attached PDF).

If it's a PDF, can't it be put up in the FILES section of this group?

I would like to see it, too.

John

# 401. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-11 01:40:07 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 385  Message: 401

At 07:00 PM 4/10/2007, ai4re wrote:
>If it's a PDF, can't it be put up in the FILES section of this group?

I'll work on that...

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 402. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: WB9LPU Rotobug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-11 02:05:23 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 385  Message: 402

Hi, John -

Thanks for the tip. When I get back from this dial-up road trip, I will give it a try.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
>From: ai4re <ai4re@...>
>Sent: Apr 10, 2007 9:00 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: WB9LPU Rotobug
>
>--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>> Glad to have you aboard - now you know what I've been up to. I
>don't have a way of posting the RotoBug manual, but I will send you a
>copy (attached PDF).
>
>If it's a PDF, can't it be put up in the FILES section of this group?
>
>I would like to see it, too.
>
>John
>
>

# 403. Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 13:05:30 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 403  Message: 403

but it probably won't stay around too long -- I won
http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=170099549402

I've been trying to win a "box" for about 6 months now and
finally broke down and got one with a bug included, HI!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 404. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 14:30:39 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 403  Message: 404

Hi Earl,
I was watching that bug. It really looks like a nice one in the pics.
Let me know if it's as good as the pics when you get it.
Looks like a nice case also. Great price also, a good deal I think.

On 4/13/07, Earl Needham <earl_needham@...> wrote:
>
> > but it probably won't stay around too long -- I won
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=170099549402
>
> I've been trying to win a "box" for about 6 months now and
> finally broke down and got one with a bug included, HI!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> --
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C
Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 405. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 15:59:33 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 403  Message: 405
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 406. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 16:36:31 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 403  Message: 406

David,
I agree the Vibroplex case really is a beautiful piece of woodworking, and I've been "eyeing" it for some time now. However, I can't get past their use of the thin, wire carrying handle. When contrasted to the fat, leather handle on the original box, which must be really comfortable to carry, the wire handle almost hurts to look at. I wonder why Vibroplex didn't go with something a bit more ergonomic. Hope to hear you on the air soon.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/13/2007 9:09:27 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n1ea@... writes:

A note to everyone: Vibroplex sells beautiful NEW boxes for bugs - they're very well made.

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 407. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 17:39:21 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 403  Message: 407

David,
You are correct, the carryng cases are very nice. I just got one for my 100th Anniversary Original with a custom nameplate with my SKCC number and the bugs special serial number.
It had been on order since before Christmas but they were changing suppliers and hadn't received the new ones yet. I just got it last week, so they are in stock again and ready for delivery.

On 4/13/07, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
> > A nice looking key. Very good shape for the vintage, in fact very good shape not even considering the age.
>
> A note to everyone: Vibroplex sells beautiful NEW boxes for bugs - they're very well made.
>
> I remember when I started in radio in 1965, the Champion bug was $12.00 and the box was $8.00, so when I bought a used Champion for $6.00, I couldn't allow myself to buy a new box for more money than the bug - and of course, I regret not doing so. The box would have cost me more than the used key.
>
> 73
>
> David Ring
> N1EA
>
>--

73,
Don, NN8B

# 408. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 19:09:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 403  Message: 408
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 409. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-13 19:12:17 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 403  Message: 409
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 410. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 01:19:49 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 403  Message: 410

David,
Well, I guess anything in poor condition can break, but I was referring more to the ergonomics of the handle, than to its state of repair.
73, Milt

In a message dated 4/13/2007 12:30:16 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n1ea@... writes:

Actually, I'm glad they used wire. I've broken two keys with those darned leather straps.

I have the case with my "Original" bug and one day when I was taking it from the cubby hole where we kept out bugs at Tuckerton Radio / WSC in West Creek, NJ, the strap broke, and the bug fell to the floor, the box broke the corner (crushed) and I had to fix the bug for $40 in parts, a uncomfortable bus ride up to Broadway in NYC and having to work for a few days with a straight key sending all those telegrams.

I think I had to soak my arm in ice for several hours if I remember now. I hadn't really ever learned how to send on a straight key, so I used the wrist too much and eight hours of sending at 20 wpm was just too much for me.

I guess I had gotten used to sending with a bug.

It sure made me humble (at least for a few weeks...).

73

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 411. Re: Another bug for me--now carrying cases

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 03:24:42 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 403  Message: 411

I don't think I would be carrying a bug too much in a wood case. First, the wood box is too pretty. Second, I don't know if the bug is held in place if the box tips over. The pretty wood box is at work, so I can't check that right now.

I'm an engineer at a cell phone company and the bug at work is an interesting contrast with the very modern cellular telephone & computer stuff I work with each day. Very few people recognize the key or understand the card that says "in case of outage" that rests next to it.

When I do carry a bug (field day is about it anymore), I use an old style black "fake leather looking stuff" covered box with the opening on the end. I even spent 15 or so minutes making a key for the thing and paid a cobbler to make a new leather strap for it.

Eric

# 412. Tax Day RFTB Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 02:37:09 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 412  Message: 412

Got the Income Tax blues? Well, I've got something up my sleeve to take your mind off of your income tax preparation blues for at least two hours this Sunday night !

Because this Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is April 22nd at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 413. old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 14:13:21 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 413  Message: 413
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The old leather handles rot from oils from the hand. The metal holding the handle to the old style boxes is rivetted in place, and I have not been able to remove them to install restored handles. I took the whole thing to the Tandy Leather store to discuss it.

They sold me some black stained leather, a spiked wheel which when you roll it on wet leather, looks like stitching. They explained, soak the leather in water for a while, then you can force the ends of the new handle through the metal on the box, and re-expand the ends, thus creating a replacement handle. Once dried, no way it will escape.

then treat the leather with a leather preservative, and do this periodically. do it also to old ones with original leather, to retard any further rotting, and prevent the catastrophy of it breaking while carrying a precious antique bug. Seen here:

I was able to buy mostly boxes without handles for ten dollars, and restore the handles in this way. Now I have a case for each of my small key collection.

My favorite box is one from the 1930's for a Racer. It is very narrow, and very scarce, only seen one other.

It, too, has a restored handle. I use black shoe polish on the surface of the old box. It seals it from further drying out, and restores some lustre.

73

Fred - KT5X

# 414. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 15:44:58 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 413  Message: 414

Hello..

Excellent!!

Perhaps if you have the inclination to post the dimension

for both boxes it would be much appreciated.

Maybe, just maybe, we who are wood challenged can make a go at making one.

Perhaps someone on the list is a cabinet maker and can whip one ( or two ) out.

tnx for the pictures.

On Apr 14, 2007, at 7:13 AM, Trail Fox wrote:

> The old leather handles rot from oils from the hand. The metal
> holding the handle to the old style boxes is rivetted in place, and
> I have not been able to remove them to install restored handles. I
> took the whole thing to the Tandy Leather store to discuss it.
>
> They sold me some black stained leather, a spiked wheel which when
> you roll it on wet leather, looks like stitching. They explained,
> soak the leather in water for a while, then you can force the ends
> of the new handle through the metal on the box, and re-expand the
> ends, thus creating a replacement handle. Once dried, no way it
> will escape.
>
> then treat the leather with a leather preservative, and do this
> periodically. do it also to old ones with original leather, to
> retard any further rotting, and prevent the catastrophy of it
> breaking while carrying a precious antique bug. Seen here:
>
> <00d401c77e9f$0ebe97a0$f7121341>
>
> I was able to buy mostly boxes without handles for ten dollars, and
> restore the handles in this way. Now I have a case for each of my
> small key collection.
>
> My favorite box is one from the 1930's for a Racer. It is very
> narrow, and very scarce, only seen one other.
>
> <00d501c77e9f$0ebe97a0$f7121341>
>
> It, too, has a restored handle. I use black shoe polish on the

> surface of the old box. It seals it from further drying out, and
> restores some lustre.
>
> 73
>
> Fred - KT5X
>

Fernando N2FQ
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq>

# 415. Anyone using Morse Doktor?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 17:31:16 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 415  Message: 415

Hi,

There is a URL in the Links section to Morse Doktor by ZL1AN. Pierpont mentions it in his online book. It took me awhile to find it and download it. It took even awhile longer for me to rig up a cable to the 25 pin parallel port connector.

The software uses the parallel port for input from a key or keyer. I have only tried manual keys and not an electronic keyer yet. The output is through the PC speaker and not the sound card.

I have been able to get two keys to work well with the software: the Hi-Mound HK-802 and the Navy flame proof key. I also tried my Champion bug and my Vibro Keyer jumpered as a cootie key.

The bug and Vibro Keyer are too dirty on the dot side as evidenced by the software. It may be mechanical bounce noise and not real dirt issues as I cannot audibly hear any scratchiness. The contacts are visibly clean.

The two straight keys mentioned above play well with Morse Doktor. The software gives a nice wave form display and several numeric outputs indicating the quality of sending. It really helps when adjusting my HK-802 Swedish presentation key. I tend to make my dits to short and the software helps find the optimal spring tension setting.

David, N1EA, has indicated longer dits can be of benefit on the lower HF bands plauged by QRN. I wanted the software to show me the weight of my sending on the cootie. Cooties are typically heavier in weight. But the software won't handle my improvised cootie key due a noisy left side.

This software could be of use to bug users, though my comments were mostly about straight keys and cooties. My champion bug choked on the dit side indicating very short dits.

I would like to hear from anyone who has tried Morse Doktor. Perhaps someone could download from from the URL I provided in the Links section and comment on it. The only caveat is wiring up a cable to two pins on a 25 pin male connector.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 416. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-14 21:33:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 413  Message: 416

At 08:13 AM 4/14/2007, Trail Fox wrote:
>then treat the leather with a leather preservative, and do this periodically.

What do you suggest? Something like neatsfoot oil, or
what? About the only thing I ever used on my leather boots was
SnowSeal, which might not be the right thing here.

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 417. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-15 03:25:47 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 413  Message: 417
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 418. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-15 13:19:13 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 413  Message: 418

Whips?????? :-)

On Sun, 15 Apr 2007, David Ring wrote:

> I uxd neatsfoot oil which I get from the hardware store on my straps, belts
> and whips.
>
> They last longer.

# 419. old cases

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-15 15:01:40 UTC
From: Trail Fox
Topic: 419  Message: 419

Dimensions?

Well, outside dimensions are going to vary based upon the thickness of the material. Inside dimensions are based upon the bug itself.

The small box, and the reason it was done away with, presents a problem. You see, the box just barely acdepts a blue racer, but the racer adjustment screws extend beyond the base. Depending upon how the bug is adjusted, it may not go into the box.

The later boxes are bigger, then have shims inside to match the width of the base, but allow additional space above the base for the over hanging adjustment screws.

I am not aware that a box was ever made for the size of a Junior (three inch wide base). I use a regular box for that, and I made a shim out of plastic that rides along side of the bug, and in, correcting for the narrower width of that bug.

I think any leather treatment would do well. Neet's Foot oil is the classic. Tandy Leather certainly has leather treatments, and so do all auot stores, for leather upholstry.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 420. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-15 15:50:34 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 413  Message: 420
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 421. Re: [cw_bugs] old case handles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-15 19:10:40 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 413  Message: 421

In a message dated 4/15/2007 8:53:07 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time,
n1ea@... writes:

What do you use to make the horse go faster - or to coax a slow bug to go
QRQ?

73

DR

?? TURPENTINE ??

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 422. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-16 01:18:24 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 422  Message: 422

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /ManualStd-4.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : Preliminary manual for RotoBug

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/ManualStd-4.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/help/us/groups/files

Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
```

# 423. One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-16 15:57:20 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 423  Message: 423

If you want a really historic bug check this item on ebay: 130101134059

I am curious; if you got it would you put it in a showcase or use it.

I think I would use it from time to time.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 424. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-16 17:38:46 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 423  Message: 424

At 09:57 AM 4/16/2007, Don wrote:

>If you want a really historic bug check this item on ebay: 130101134059
>
>I am curious; if you got it would you put it in a showcase or use it.
>
>I think I would use it from time to time.

I use ALL my code gear, whether it's a 30-year old keyer or
a 60-year old bug.

That being said, let me further say that I don't think I
have to worry about this one -- it was over $200 when last I looked,
and 4+ days to go...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 425. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-16 16:37:18 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 423  Message: 425

Elmo was a great operator - I had some enjoyable QSOs with him in the late 1960s.

I wish I had known more about him then, I just knew he worked at WNY (RCA New York Harbor Radio) as a telegrapher.

Later the SOWP (of which he was a charter Senior Spark Gap member) named their coast-to-coast net after him.

He was the first man to communicate from air by radio, also was on some of the best ships of his day - I think we has CRO (Chief Radio Officer) on the Leviathan which was one of the largest ships of its time (USA flag) later on.

73
David J. Ring, Jr., CRO, United States Merchant Marine
=30=

On 4/16/07, Don <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>
> If you want a really historic bug check this item on ebay: 130101134059
>
> I am curious; if you got it would you put it in a showcase or use it.
>
> I think I would use it from time to time.
>
> 73,
> Don, NN8B

# 426. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-16 19:06:02 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 423  Message: 426

Hi David,
Check the ebay listing, there's a letter from Louise Morow included in
the with the key stating just what you said plus other stations/ships
he operated from. It's quite a historical package.
I'm sure I can never afford to get it.

On 4/16/07, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Elmo was a great operator - I had some enjoyable QSOs with him in the
> late 1960s.
>
> I wish I had known more about him then, I just knew he worked at WNY
> (RCA New York Harbor Radio) as a telegrapher.
>
> Later the SOWP (of which he was a charter Senior Spark Gap member)
> named their coast-to-coast net after him.
>
> He was the first man to communicate from air by radio, also was on
> some of the best ships of his day - I think we has CRO (Chief Radio
> Officer) on the Leviathan which was one of the largest ships of its
> time (USA flag) later on.
>
> 73
> David J. Ring, Jr., CRO, United States Merchant Marine
> =30=
>
--
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C
Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 427. VE3TPD has joined us

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-17 04:35:14 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 427  Message: 427

Welcome, George!

>Comment from user:
>I have been a ham for 16 years and like cw. I have several bugs and have
>built 3 bugs from scratch as well as refurbished a couple of
>Vibroplexes.

I'm sure we ALL would like to see some pictures of the bugs you built!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 428. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-17 22:12:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 423  Message: 428
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 429. Re: [cw_bugs] Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-17 23:43:14 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 403  Message: 429

At 08:30 AM 4/13/2007, Donald Kemp wrote:
>Hi Earl,
>I was watching that bug. It really looks like a nice one in the pics.
>Let me know if it's as good as the pics when you get it.
>Looks like a nice case also. Great price also, a good deal I think.
>
>On 4/13/07, Earl Needham
><<mailto:earl_needham%40yahoo.com>earl_needham@...> wrote:
> >
> > > but it probably won't stay around too long -- I won
> >
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=170099549402>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=170099549402

It just arrived! I have a little work to do -- the -- ah, I
believe it's the TRUNION -- is a little out of whack and needs a bit
of adjustment. Actually, it works as-is, but the adjustment screw on
top is at its limit.

And it's REAL fast, faster that I had hoped. Guess I need
to practice more.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 430. Another Bug for My Key Family

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-18 00:07:55 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 430  Message: 430

Just received a 1960 Vobroplex Blue Racer from W4FOA. It's a grey base standard version in beautiful condition.

Boy; is this a sweet operating key. It's hard to tell the appearant size from photos, but when you get it side by side with an Original, it's tiny.

Earl, we need to get a new bug to new bug qso going here.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 431. Re: [cw_bugs] Another Bug for My Key Family

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-18 00:25:51 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 430  Message: 431

At 06:07 PM 4/17/2007, Don wrote:

>Just received a 1960 Vobroplex Blue Racer from W4FOA. It's a grey base
>standard version in beautiful condition.
>
>Boy; is this a sweet operating key. It's hard to tell the appearant
>size from photos, but when you get it side by side with an Original,
>it's tiny.
>
>Earl, we need to get a new bug to new bug qso going here.

Well, we can try it, but I don't know if I can keep
up! This new one makes the Lionel seem almost tame in comparison!

I've been sitting her sending "BENS BEST BEER BET" over and
over, and I don't think I've got all the way through it yet, and I've
been playing with it for maybe 45 minutes!

Earl

P.S. Try sending "BENS BEST BEER BET" and see what happens -- but be
careful you don't knock something over! <G>

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 432. Re: [cw_bugs] Another Bug for My Key Family

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-18 02:28:56 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 430  Message: 432

Earl, that has a really nice rythm to it. Really neat.
Send " infinite" without running the letters together.

On 4/17/07, Earl Needham <earl_needham@...> wrote:
>
>
> Well, we can try it, but I don't know if I can keep
> up! This new one makes the Lionel seem almost tame in comparison!
>
> I've been sitting her sending "BENS BEST BEER BET" over and
> over, and I don't think I've got all the way through it yet, and I've
> been playing with it for maybe 45 minutes!
>
> Earl
>
> P.S. Try sending "BENS BEST BEER BET" and see what happens -- but be
> careful you don't knock something over! <G>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C
Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 433. Mike, N9BOR is with us now

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-19 01:36:54 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 433  Message: 433

N9BOR has just joined the list -- welcome, Mike -- please
use the list to solicit and give information on bugs.

>Comment from user:
>73 de Mike, N9BOR

BTW, interesting user name on your email address -- cwzut --

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 434. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 00:39:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 423  Message: 434

Holy cow! Do you realize the bid on this thing is now over
$2500!!! And with 2 days to go!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 435. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 02:39:38 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 423  Message: 435

Earl,
The coolest part is they haven't cracked the reserve yet!!
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/20/2007 5:40:20 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time,
earl_needham@... writes:

Holy cow! Do you realize the bid on this thing is now over
$2500!!! And with 2 days to go!

_http://cgi.ebay.http://cgi.ebay.http://cgi.eb&<WBR>item=130101_
(http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059)

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
_http://groups.http://grohttp://grhttp_
(http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs)

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 436. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 12:02:07 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 423  Message: 436

I can just see it now -- "Honey, sell that old bug, you're
not using it and I need the room for my salt & pepper shaker collection."

"Yes, dear". "Lessee, $5000 reserve ought to keep it from selling..."

<G>
Earl

At 08:39 PM 4/20/2007, k4oso@... wrote:

>Earl,
>The coolest part is they haven't cracked the reserve yet!!
>Milt k4oso
>
>In a message dated 4/20/2007 5:40:20 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time,
>earl_needham@... writes:
>Holy cow! Do you realize the bid on this thing is now over
>$2500!!! And with 2 days to go!
>
><http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/e
BayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059
>
>Earl
>
>KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
><http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 437. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 14:02:40 UTC
From: rwolf
Topic: 423  Message: 437

If serial # is 2442, how could this possibly be true? I mean what were the other 2441 bugs used for do ya think?
I'm not questioning validity here, but what am I missing?
tnx,
ke5hls
ps: still an incredible history & price so far...
----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2007 9:39 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Earl,
The coolest part is they haven't cracked the reserve yet!!
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/20/2007 5:40:20 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, earl_needham@... writes:
Holy cow! Do you realize the bid on this thing is now over
$2500!!! And with 2 days to go!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

---
See what's free at AOL.com.

# 438. you think THAT's high

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 14:35:13 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 438  Message: 438
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Perhaps it is safe to bid under a known reserve price of five G's. The key is worth maybe five hundred. What's the provenance worth to you? Interestingly, it is said the key was made after it is said to have been used. Something doesn't fit there.

But talk over-priced, look at this!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&ih=003&sspagename=STRK%3AMEWA%3AIT&viewitem=&item=130099541808&rd=1&rd=1

It has replacement contact posts and screws and is late model for DL, and still is the highest price I can recall seeing on a DL.

My DL is one of the earliest made. It has the provenance of being the "home depot" key of the KATY RR. Wonder what it might sell for!

73,

Fred - kt5x

# 439. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 14:43:15 UTC
From: rwolf
Topic: 423  Message: 439

Ok... so I read the letter in the ad. Forgive my ignorance as I tend to forget the obvious. Not considering wire telegraphy & wireless telegraphy as anything different(D'oh!) has caused me to once again suffer from foot in mouth disease.
Great auction, too bad money not for burning...I'd kick that reserve & bid up a notch...
ke5hls
----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2007 9:39 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Earl,
The coolest part is they haven't cracked the reserve yet!!
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 4/20/2007 5:40:20 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, earl_needham@yahoo.com writes:
Holy cow! Do you realize the bid on this thing is now over
$2500!!! And with 2 days to go!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130101134059

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

---
See what's free at AOL.com.

# 440. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 15:19:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 423  Message: 440
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 441. Re: [cw_bugs] you think THAT's high

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 16:14:27 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 438  Message: 441

At 08:35 AM 4/21/2007, cloud runner wrote:
>Perhaps it is safe to bid under a known reserve price of five G's.

I need to state right NOW that I only used $5000 as an
example. I really have no idea what the reserve price is.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 442. Re: [cw_bugs] you think THAT's high

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 16:33:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 438  Message: 442
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 443. Another crazy eBay Auction

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 16:42:37 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 443  Message: 443

See this: http://cgi.ebay.com/Vintage-Vibroplex-Original-1944-Karl-Mark-Book-1939_W0QQitemZ280093697675QQcmdZViewItem

Obviously if it was a Russian spy, they'd probably send their messages with a Russian translation as Marx's original ms was in German not English, and if I were Russian spy, I'd find it easier to work with Russian not English.

Buyer beware - as is most eBay stuff.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA
=30=

# 444. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-21 22:19:39 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 423  Message: 444
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 445. Re: [cw_bugs] One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-23 10:52:55 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 423  Message: 445
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 446. Re: Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-23 15:39:55 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 403  Message: 446

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> A nice looking key. Very good shape for the vintage, in fact very
good
> shape not even considering the age.
>
> A note to everyone: Vibroplex sells beautiful NEW boxes for bugs -
they're
> very well made.

I was playing with the wood case at the Vibroplex booth at the Orlando hamfest a month or so ago. They had a bug in the case. It was a nice, tight fit. I was trying to be non-chalant about "testing" their box, but was having such a time trying to get the bug out, it caught there attention.

The only thing that has kept me from getting the box is that the bug is always in use at the radio, and I can't think of any time I'd need to transport it somewhere.

# 447. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-23 16:59:13 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 403  Message: 447
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 448. Vibroplex Adjustment, Cleaning and Sending Technique

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-23 19:16:11 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 448  Message: 448

GOOD BUG SENDING TECHNIQUE

Your wrist is "rocked" with the same motion that you use when opening a door knob, the wrist and are lie on the desk and rock with that motion. The position in which you assume to use the bug would be just like you would grab a door knob or to receive a beverage bottle. You roll your wrist on the fleshy part of your hand back and forth. No finger movements at all!

Finger motions are not to be used as they give carpal tunnel syndrome (glass arm) the idea is to rock the wrist with a bug and cootie key. Unfortunately the paddle used with an electronic keyer must be tapped with fingers at high speeds :(

I know it might be silly to say this, but it is much easier to send when both feet are on the floor not angled to the left or right, but straight and senders body is straight and not turned. It is much easier - try it if you don't believe this.

BUG CLEANING

The following is time consuming but I find it always works and I do this routinely and it takes time but it saves time because it eliminates problems.

If your bug is old, take it completely apart and clean (especially) the contacting surfaces, including the underneath connecting strips (especially around the screws), the countersunk hole for the grounded binding post, the silver contacts, the surface where the U shaped dot spring contacts the vibrator, and the two beveled pins of the trunnion assembly (the pins on which the main lever pivots in the frame), and make sure that the cups into which the pins fit are clean of debris.

I use the cotton wadding with metal polish which is sold nationwide, and a stick pencil type eraser to clean the more stubborn parts and then use Flitz metal polish to finish the metal cleaning. If you have an ultrasonic cleaner (jewelry cleaner) put some ammonia and water in it, with a few drops of Dawn dish cleaner liquid and use for 15 minutes, then repeat with clean water. I dry everything in a toaster oven for 1 hour at 140 degrees F.l

A bug has to swing far enough to compress the U spring - it doesn't send like a paddle - you use your wrist - you shouldn't get tired with this key - if you are, your probably doing it incorrectly. The dash spacing and tension should be adjusted for reliable dashes.

See the "Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy" by N0HFF available several places and in several languages on the Internet for good advice on sending and general tips.

CONTACT ALIGNMENT

Old bugs have a screw which holds the lever against the trunnion post. This can be adjusted up and down. Later bugs do not, and the alignment of the dot contact and the dash contact must be done by adjusting the top and bottom trunnion screws. The bottom trunnion screw is held fast (and will strip unless this screw is loosened) by a screw on the rear side of the frame. You must use a long handled screw driver to get to this screw! Loosen this screw and you will be able to loosen and tighten the bottom trunnion screw and raise and lower the position of the lever.

The lever should be adjusted so that the height of the lever / mainspring / vibrator assembly is such that the contact on the U shaped dot spring is vertically aligned with the dot post contact.

The alignment of the dash contact can be done (after the above is done) by loosening the small contact plate and adjusting.

All final adjustments should be done so that the contacts are touching and completely aligned so that the contacts meet as fully and directly as possible.

DOT ADJUSTMENT

Bugs used for radiotelegraphy vs bugs used for landline telegraphy were set to approximately 60% of a VOM meter reading in resistance.

If your power is 1500 watts key down, it will still be 1500 watts on each dot closure - but the dots will give different meter ballistic movements different results - but rest assured they are still full power.

That being said, dots with a dot/space ratio of about 100:60 OR 1.67:1 will give better copy than dots with a 1:1 ratio during radio conditions on typical hf bands. Or instead of 1.00 to 1 - dots sound better about 1.5 to 1.67 to 1.

CONTACTS

If you buy some silver cleaner you can clean them. If you can find 1500 grit wet/dry sandpaper, you can smooth them out. You can also buy a burnishing tool from GC Electronics for $1.57 which is an extremely fine file that is about 1/4 inch wide and about 1/32 inch thick which was designed especially for that purpose. I use 800 grit wet/dry sandpaper (very lightly and with care) then 1500 grit wet/dry and finally I polish with Flitz metal polish which is a very very low grit polish;. The contacts if done this way will come out like mirrors.

BUG ADJUSTMENT

Old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a significant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and avoiding scratchy and bouncing dots.

The limit screw adjustment for the damper is adjusted just so the end of the swinging pendulum contacts the damper. The bug is also quieter when the damper doesn't move as dramatically.

The dot spring will have more tension than you might be accustomed to. The spring tension returns the lever after sending dots quickly and it also makes the lever move with more force which sets up a stronger impact on the dot spring which results in much stronger and less problematic dots. This is the cure for poor dots if the contacts and the other connections are clean.

HARD TO FIND PROBLEMS

When you have bad dots, the hard to diagnose problems that I've routinely found are: The terminal connectors are loose and the round cylinder shaped nut is not holding the base tightly when the bug sends dots the contact is intermittent. The dot spring is loose on the vibrating arm. When the contacts crash, the spring conducts intermittently. Similar happens for all the contact path on the connecting straps - if one is loose or corroded, it will produce poor dots.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
Former Commercial Radiotelegrapher

# 449. Re: Another bug for me

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-24 18:10:26 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 403  Message: 449

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> Some of the operators left the bug in the case which muffled
(reduced) the
> sound and protected the key from dirt.
>
> I don't know if the new wooden cases can do thie. The old boxes
had a swing
> open end hinge which allowed the finger pieces to protrude so you
could open
> and use the key. The wedge would be of sufficient length to be
attached to
> the station key.
>
> The Pelikan cases were terrible as they opened from the top - they
were only
> for storage!

The current wooden boxes must be like the Pelican you've seen. The
don't open from the end, and you couldn't operate the bug with it
still in the case.

The current wooden cases can be seen on the Vibroplex web site.
<http://www.vibroplex.com/accessories.html>

# 450. Re: One Historic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-04-24 18:32:04 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 423  Message: 450

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Yes, but the bug in question is too late a vintage to be the bug that
he
> used from an airplane.
>
> Look at the serial number and then go to www.vibroplex.com and check
the
> date of that Original Vibroplex. Note: When in Maine and now in
Mobile the
> numbering system has been changed - so don't mistake a low number of
a Maine
> or Alabama bug being a really ancient one!
>
> They key is old, but not too old.

Are you still talking of the bug in the auction? According to the
Vibroplex Collector's Page <http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/index.html>,
both the serial number on the case (2442) and the style of nameplate
are consistent with 1906 manufacture.

# 451. Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 14:13:53 UTC
From: steve_n0tu
Topic: 451  Message: 451

Recently restored a Vibroplex Original and started relearning how to use it. The good news was it came back pretty fast after a month of practice I was starting to get the hang of it again and actually had a few on the air QSOs. The other guys didn't complain too much about my sloppy fist! The bad news is my fore arm would break out in pins and needles after an hour or so of QSO! Probably too many years driving a mouse using PCs!

So I'm back on my keyer paddles w/keyer (sigh) which don't seem to bother my wrist as much? I think it because of all the additional movement in the forearm required to operate the bug that's giving my wrist the fits! However I worked a guy this AM who was using a Champion who said he had similar issues and said the Champion was alot easier to operate than the Original? He said he thought the Original took more effort to operate? Is this true?

So does anyone have a Champ or equiv-design that they might want to part with???

Tks Steve/n0tu

# 452. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 14:24:10 UTC
From: wf2u@starband.net
Topic: 451  Message: 452

If your wrist is stressed and overworked while sending with a bug, you're not using it correctly. The bug was developed to ease the strain on the wrist which occured with the straight key usage.

The bug should be operated with finger pressure, while the wrist is resting on the table. The wrist motion/effort should be minimal. It doesn't matter what bug is used, as long as the bug is adjusted correctly.

73, Meir WF2U - Bug user since 1965...
Landrum, SC

> Recently restored a Vibroplex Original and started relearning how to
> use it. The good news was it came back pretty fast after a month of
> practice I was starting to get the hang of it again and actually had a
> few on the air QSOs. The other guys didn't complain too much about my
> sloppy fist! The bad news is my fore arm would break out in pins and
> needles after an hour or so of QSO! Probably too many years driving a
> mouse using PCs!
>
> So I'm back on my keyer paddles w/keyer (sigh) which don't seem to
> bother my wrist as much? I think it because of all the additional
> movement in the forearm required to operate the bug that's giving my
> wrist the fits! However I worked a guy this AM who was using a Champion
> who said he had similar issues and said the Champion was alot easier to
> operate than the Original? He said he thought the Original took more
> effort to operate? Is this true?
>
> So does anyone have a Champ or equiv-design that they might want to
> part with???
>
> Tks Steve/n0tu
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 453. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 14:35:44 UTC
From: n0tu/Steve
Topic: 451  Message: 453
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 454. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 15:40:15 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 451  Message: 454

Steve,
I have both Originals and Champions and don't think the effort involved is any different. However, that changes when you go to the old model Blue Racers. The BR is considerably easier, much like a paddle, almost. Having said that, if your wrist is getting sore, you probably are not using the bug correctly. The movement should be of the arm, and rolling on the meaty side of your hand. David, N1EA says no movement of the fingers is allowed, but my sending style does involve some degree of finger movement. At any rate, the wrist should not be doing the heavy lifting.
If, after all is said and done, you still are searching for a Champion, I have two and would be willing to part with one of them.
Good luck es 73
Milt k4oso
In a message dated 5/2/2007 7:17:42 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n0tu.qrp@... writes:

Recently restored a Vibroplex Original and started relearning how to use it. The good news was it came back pretty fast after a month of practice I was starting to get the hang of it again and actually had a few on the air QSOs. The other guys didn't complain too much about my sloppy fist! The bad news is my fore arm would break out in pins and needles after an hour or so of QSO! Probably too many years driving a mouse using PCs!

So I'm back on my keyer paddles w/keyer (sigh) which don't seem to bother my wrist as much? I think it because of all the additional movement in the forearm required to operate the bug that's giving my wrist the fits! However I worked a guy this AM who was using a Champion who said he had similar issues and said the Champion was alot easier to operate than the Original? He said he thought the Original took more effort to operate? Is this true?

So does anyone have a Champ or equiv-design that they might want to part with???

Tks Steve/n0tu

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 455. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 16:17:14 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 451  Message: 455

I have 4 different bugs on the operating desk. The differences between them are slight at best. I agree with Meir that you may be using the bug incorrectly if it hurts at all. Or you have some medical issue that may cause you to be extraordinarily sensitive to the movements needed to operate the bug.

I have never used a Champion though I look forward to it someday. I do have 2 Lightning Bugs, one of which lives on my desk along with the dual lever Frattini, Vibroplex Deluxe Original and the K4VIZ VizKey Vertical. The lightest touch is the Lightning bug. There is less metal used to make its pendulum and it's sliding weight is smallish. The dual lever Frattini is the next lightest only because the weight on the pendulum is somewhat larger and the pendulum itself is somewhat longer. The Deluxe Original has an Extendadot bug tamer so it's pendulum is ever so slightly heavier but with its jeweled movement, it is smooth and easy to operate. Originals with more than one weight, especially the largest standard Vibroplex weights can be tough to use at any speed.

Adding lots of weight to a bug pendulum to slow it down is usually counterproductive and can lead to fatigue if overdone. A too-heavily-weighted pendulum will result in sloppy sending as well. Perhaps you have too much weight on your pendulum??? I'm sure it has been discussed here ad nauseum and I don't want to re-open the debate but I find pendulum extenders to be much more effective at slowing a bug without adding undue weight. My favorite is the Extendadot.

The VizKey Vertical is fun to use but it has a different feel particularly on the dash lever. In my unscientific way, I sense that I'm working hardest using the Vizkey. The weight used on the Vizkey is large...somewhat larger than a large Vibroplex weight. Since the pendulum is well balanced, it's still easy to use the bug but I can feel myself using a trifle more effort to move the pendulum from side to side. The movement just isn't as silky smooth as the others.

But I can operate any of these bugs for hours without experiencing ANY pain. So I would carefully examine how you are using your bug to see if you are doing something that is hurting you. "Doctor, it hurts when I do this!" "Don't do that!!!!" says the doctor.

In the most general sense, using a bug involves keeping the fingers fixed at a specific spread and rocking one's arm back and forth. The most work is done keeping the fingers fixed in place. The bug is operated by the rocking motion of one's arm from side to side, not by moving the fingers alone. N1EA has produced several notes on this technique. Search the message archive here to read his description. Ultimately, using a bug should be close to effortless with no muscle ache whatsoever. Remember, just like

everyone else, you are unique. Perhaps there is something going on in your arm that can be understood only by a medical professional. Perhaps what you are feeling is indicative of some other issue.

The most serious lack of resources for the beginning bug user is the lack of audio-visuals to allow a newbie to see how a bug is adjusted and used. Billions of words have been set to paper and screen attempting to describe in prose the nuances, balance, feel and manipulation required to use a bug properly. There is a video floating around various places where an op is using one method (not necessarily universally accepted as the proper method) of using an Original style bug. There simply aren't enough good training tools out there.

Perhaps one of the things that this group could do is muster the resources needed to start Bug Training seminars at hamfests everywhere. A foundation for the promotion of bug education could be formed and donations gathered to allow a professional production team to produce a 30 minute training video that can be sold via infomercial focusing on the adjustment and use of a bug. I see great possibilities here.

In the meantime, if you work someone on the air who has a great bug fist, ask if you can visit them for personal instruction. You could bring your bug with you for adjustment assistance. I'm sure that with just a few hours of consultation anyone's bug and skills could be immeasurably improved. Some groups foster the ELMER concept for just this reason. Perhaps it would be worth the effort to find one nearby??

I would be glad to host folks here in Paradise for bug training as I have been told that my bug fist is fairly copyable. In fact, I believe that when I retire I will open the

KB4T Institute for Elementary and Advanced Bug Studies

( or....given my QTH perhaps I should call it BUG WORLD !! ) Operators from all over the globe would then have a place to which they could go to achieve oneness with their bug. Let me give this more thought.

In the meantime, try to get face time with someone whose fist you admire and see if you can figure out how you can use your bug without hurting yourself.

Good luck!

73,

Frank KB4T
Florida

At 02:13 PM 5/2/2007 +0000, you wrote:

>Recently restored a Vibroplex Original and started relearning how to
>use it. The good news was it came back pretty fast after a month of
>practice I was starting to get the hang of it again and actually had a

>few on the air QSOs. The other guys didn't complain too much about my
>sloppy fist! The bad news is my fore arm would break out in pins and
>needles after an hour or so of QSO! Probably too many years driving a
>mouse using PCs!
>
>So I'm back on my keyer paddles w/keyer (sigh) which don't seem to
>bother my wrist as much? I think it because of all the additional
>movement in the forearm required to operate the bug that's giving my
>wrist the fits! However I worked a guy this AM who was using a Champion
>who said he had similar issues and said the Champion was alot easier to
>operate than the Original? He said he thought the Original took more
>effort to operate? Is this true?
>
>So does anyone have a Champ or equiv-design that they might want to
>part with???
>
>Tks Steve/n0tu

# 456. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-02 23:24:13 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 451  Message: 456

Frank, You aren't by any chance planning a vacation to Montana any time soon are you? Seriously, your advice is sorely needed by some of us. I, too, have a Vizkey Verticle that I use regularly and really like. I am getting better with it, but still stumble on occassion. Please keep your advice coming...73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 05/02/07 16:32:31 Mountain Daylight Time, kb4t@... writes:
Operators from all over the globe would then have a place to which they could go to achieve oneness with their bug. Let me give this more thought

# 457. Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-03 01:05:17 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 451  Message: 457

Second the motion. My Vizkey vertical isn't nearly as smooth as my old Blue Racer. I did add a two inch brass rod extension to the pendulum. Now I can use lighter weights. Still could use some guidance on the rascal.
73,
Troy, W6HV
FISTS #6874, SKCC #920
----- Original Message -----
From: BPCI<mailto:BPCI@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2007 4:24 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Champ vrs Original

Frank, You aren't by any chance planning a vacation to Montana any time soon are you? Seriously, your advice is sorely needed by some of us. I, too, have a Vizkey Verticle that I use regularly and really like. I am getting better with it, but still stumble on occassion. Please keep your advice coming...73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

# 458. Bug Physics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-03 20:53:21 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 458  Message: 458

Through my life, I have often seen the derivation for the period of a free-hanging pendulum. The problem with a bug pendulum is a little different as the restoring force is due to a spring rather than gravity, and a fairly quick search didn't reveal a similar derivation for the "spring pendulum."

I performed the derivation for the bug pendulum using the usual small-angle approximations.

I determined that the frequency of oscillation is inversely proportional to the square root of the weight mass and inversely proportional to the distance of the center of the mass from the pivot point.

E.g., if you want the bug to go half as fast, you need to either quadruple the weight or move the weight four times farther out the arm (or some equivalent combination). You can see that this makes it difficult to drastically slow a bug.

If anyone knows that my derivation is wrong, please let me know. Notice that this is a different result from the free-hanging pendulum whose frequency is proportional only to the inverse of the square root of the position of the center of the weight mass.

I was conversing via e-mail with Bill NT9K the other day about slowing bugs. The problem with trying to slow a bug by adding a second weight on the end is that you have to bring the first weight further inward, and the center of mass of the two weights has actually moved inward some, counteracting the effect of adding more weight. The square root dependence doesn't help either, making the resulting speed decrease rather disappointing.

This is why a device such as a Varispeed or Extendadot is very important if you really want to slow a bug down. They allow you to add weight, and move that weight further away from the pivot.

# 459. Trip Planning ( C U @ Dayton??? )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-04 04:35:39 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 451  Message: 459

Ci:

I'm not planning any trips to Montana in the immediate future. However, offers of "All Expenses Paid" travel could easily influence my planning.

73,

Frank KB4T

At 05:24 PM 5/2/2007 -0600, you wrote:

>Frank, You aren't by any chance planning a vacation to Montana any time
>soon are you? Seriously, your advice is sorely needed by some of us. I,
>too, have a Vizkey Verticle that I use regularly and really like. I am
>getting better with it, but still stumble on occassion. Please keep your
>advice coming...73, Ci
>
>Ci Jones, WU7R
>FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
>SKCC #22, C#38

# 460. Common bug errors

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-14 20:40:35 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 460  Message: 460

At 08:12 AM 5/14/2007, ai4re wrote:
>He doesn't suffer from some of the usual bug errors.

Ooh, that implies that these could be listed. How about
giving me the rundown on this idea?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 461. May NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-15 02:22:38 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 461  Message: 461

This Wednesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Thursday May 17th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Wednesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
For the one making the most 20 Meter QSOs.

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on May 23, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 462. Fwd: [skcc] Did someone mention inflation and high priced keys?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 12:07:25 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 462  Message: 462

This came across the SKCC mailing list and I thought it was
interesting. Bill, W2BLC (www.radiotelegraphy.net) has allowed me to
forward this to the cw_bugs list, and he has also joined us.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

>Take a look at this ad I found while cleaning out some old files:
>
><http://www.radiotelegraphy.net/VibroplexAd.pdf>http://www.radiotelegraphy.net/VibroplexA
d.pdf
>
>I am not sure what year it is from, but the Champion was introduced in
>1940, the Original and Blue Racer have the straight line (more square)
>yoke used before the modernized rounder versions that appeared after
>WWII, and the Racer has the "U" damper indicating prior to the end of
>WWII. My guess is just before the war broke out in either 1940 or 1941.
>
>The $15.95 Original would be $221.50 in today's dollars - and the
>Vibroplex Original actually now sells for $179.95. A bargain?
>
>Now let's see, back in 1968 I was paying $.12 for Hancock gas during a
>gas war in San Angelo, Texas and by 1970 was paying $.279 for Hess in
>Fairfac, Virginia. But, that's another story.

# 463. New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 14:14:38 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 463  Message: 463

I am Bill, W2BLC - web master of http://www.radiotelegraphy.net.

Currently I only have one bug - the right angle VizBug. I like it very much - light touch and small footprint. I can make it sound much nicer than I ever could any of the Vibroplex bugs I have had (had a bunch of them over the years).

The only other bug I had that I got along, with even slightly, was a Johnson. I used it until the VizBug came along. Then I sold it.

I am not a collector, just a user. My straight key is presently a Bencher. But, that will be changing soon - ever in the quest for the key that is "the key."

My next trial will be a Navy 26003A Flame Proof. After that I might just give up and spend the money for an Amplidan - if I can find one.

Visit my web sites at http://www.radiotelegraphy.net and http://www.w2blc.com

# 464. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 17:31:45 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 463  Message: 464

Bill,
I have the vertical VizBug. So far I can't get the "Sweet spot" settings. Would really like to know how yours is set up (contact spacing, spring tension, etc.). Appreciate your comments.
73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: w2blc<mailto:flyer@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2007 7:14 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] New to the group

I am Bill, W2BLC - web master of
http://www.radiotelegraphy.net<http://www.radiotelegraphy.net/>.

Currently I only have one bug - the right angle VizBug. I like it very much - light touch and small footprint. I can make it sound much nicer than I ever could any of the Vibroplex bugs I have had (had a bunch of them over the years).

# 465. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 19:42:54 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 463  Message: 465

Troy, I have a vertical Vizkey, and I love it. I will be happy to share with you whatever I can to help you, but basically, I just followed the directions that came with it (serial #22). Also, it came with a little black plastic piece on the damper screw that I chose to retain Perhaps I can be of more help to you answering specific questions...73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 05/19/07 11:32:45 Mountain Daylight Time, w6hv@... writes:
Would really like to know how yours is set up (contact spacing, spring tension, etc.).

# 466. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 20:31:13 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 463  Message: 466

Ci, thanks! I have serial #21; so made the same time as yours. Well, I thought I had followed the directions. But, sure can't seem to suite myself. I tried it again last week for a QSO and had to switch back to my Blue Racer. So, would appreciate any suggestions for settings, etc. Currently my dit contacts are spaced about 3/16" with the lightest setting of the dit tension spring. The dah contacts are about 3/32" again with the lightest spring tension.
I think he added the little black plastic piece (at the suggestion from another owner) to lower the noise from the damper.
73,
Troy, W6HV
FISTS #6847
SKCC #920
----- Original Message -----
From: BPCI<mailto:BPCI@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2007 12:42 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Troy, I have a vertical Vizkey, and I love it. I will be happy to share with you whatever I can to help you, but basically, I just followed the directions that came with it (serial #22). Also, it came with a little black plastic piece on the damper screw that I chose to retain Perhaps I can be of more help to you answering specific questions...73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 05/19/07 11:32:45 Mountain Daylight Time, w6hv@verizon.net writes:
Would really like to know how yours is set up (contact spacing, spring tension, etc.).

# 467. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 22:31:10 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 463  Message: 467

Both of mine are about 1/16 with the lightest spring tension. I am very new at operating bugs, so maybe I am biased. I also have a Les Logan T-Bar bug that I really like. My other two bugs are and E. F. Johnson 520 and a Vibroplex Original, neither of which feels very god for me and my slow fist. I have used "Extendadots" to slow them down, but they still don't feel as good as the Vizkey and Logan. I would only add that I have dropped the Vizkey twice (I am a klutz) with no visible damage to it. Maybe if you set the dit contact points to 1/16 and then adjusted the dit limiting screw (the one with the tension spring) until you got 50 percent on a analog voltmeter, you would have the setting I use. Hope this helps...Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 05/19/07 14:32:06 Mountain Daylight Time, w6hv@... writes:
Currently my dit contacts are spaced about 3/16" with the lightest setting of the dit tension spring. The dah contacts are about 3/32" again with the lightest spring tension

# 468. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-19 23:31:54 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 463  Message: 468

OK, thanks. I just reset mine. It does feel better. I'm probably too used to my Vibroplex Blue Racer. The two are noticeably different.

I have very small collection of bugs; two by Ted McElroy, five Vibroplex, and the VizKey. I have used the Extendadots ( I suggested the "Trombone" design to Frank). Also have a Vari-Speed from Vibroplex and a homebrew "bug tamer".

Thanks again for the advice.
Troy, W6HV

----- Original Message -----
From: BPCI<mailto:BPCI@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2007 3:31 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Both of mine are about 1/16 with the lightest spring tension. I am very new at operating bugs, so maybe I am biased. I also have a Les Logan T-Bar bug that I really like. My other two bugs are and E. F. Johnson 520 and a Vibroplex Original, neither of which feels very god for me and my slow fist. I have used "Extendadots" to slow them down, but they still don't feel as good as the Vizkey and Logan. I would only add that I have dropped the Vizkey twice (I am a klutz) with no visible damage to it. Maybe if you set the dit contact points to 1/16 and then adjusted the dit limiting screw (the one with the tension spring) until you got 50 percent on a analog voltmeter, you would have the setting I use. Hope this helps...Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306

# 469. May RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 02:01:53 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 469  Message: 469

This Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is May 27th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 470. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 05:57:52 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 463  Message: 470
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 471. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 06:39:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 463  Message: 471
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 472. I1QOD's keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 12:15:01 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 472  Message: 472

Anyone have a clue about his prices and time delays? The straight key he builds does look interesting.

# 473. Re: [cw_bugs] I1QOD's keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 15:02:26 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 472  Message: 473

I believe his prices are posted, but you can email him directly at
"Frattini Alberto" <i1qod@...>.

I1QOD often says that it takes months, but my experience is that the
keys arrive within a week. I guess it is the system tell people a
long time and they're delighted that it was so short a time.

His bug is fabulous! Dual lever! Rubber damper!

But I know others who have his paddles, straight key (vertical) and
they all say it is the equal of any other key, if not better. I've
heard no comments otherwise. Search eham and you'll find articles
about I1QOD and his keys.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA

On 5/20/07, w2blc <flyer@...> wrote:
> Anyone have a clue about his prices and time delays? The straight key
> he builds does look interesting.
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 474. Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 15:35:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 474  Message: 474

Listen, or even better - JOIN IN.

1700 UTC on 14055 kHz. Listen for CQ SSN. We usually go up to 21055 kHz to see if conditions are better up there for the majority. If so, we stay there, if not, we return to 20 meters. Sometimes stations are late, so keep the receiver tuned in.

F5LAW, W6BNB, N1EA, W9OK and others will probably be there.

BEGINNERS are encouraged to join in - two or three years ago - about one third of the members had NEVER sent on the air with the sideswiper. We were good operators so we tried like the dickens to sound good - but we weren't at first - but due to pride we quickly humbled ourselves and we all produce good code with that darn key!

Please - even if you have cold feet - LISTEN.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA

# 475. Re: Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 15:56:37 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 474  Message: 475

Sounds interesting. Tell me more about Side Swipers.

N6NKN

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Listen, or even better - JOIN IN.
>
> 1700 UTC on 14055 kHz. Listen for CQ SSN. We usually go up to 21055
> kHz to see if conditions are better up there for the majority. If
so,
> we stay there, if not, we return to 20 meters. Sometimes stations
are
> late, so keep the receiver tuned in.
>
> F5LAW, W6BNB, N1EA, W9OK and others will probably be there.
>
> BEGINNERS are encouraged to join in - two or three years ago - about
> one third of the members had NEVER sent on the air with the
> sideswiper. We were good operators so we tried like the dickens to
> sound good - but we weren't at first - but due to pride we quickly
> humbled ourselves and we all produce good code with that darn key!
>
> Please - even if you have cold feet - LISTEN.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David Ring, N1EA
>

# 476. Re: I1QOD's keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 17:14:11 UTC
From: Toni Herrera
Topic: 472  Message: 476

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "w2blc" <flyer@...> wrote:
>
> Anyone have a clue about his prices and time delays? The straight key
> he builds does look interesting.
>

I use his keys, have the model Streigt Key "Marconi 123",
others also his semiautomatic model of two shovels and iambic Key.

Make a page Web so that all the companions could see the keys that the
Alberto friend makes, single work by order and takes of two to
three months in fabricarte the key.

The page Web is:

http://keys-i1qod.ea3re.com/

EA3RE Toni
Gnarl. Coordinator EACW Club

# 477. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 17:34:48 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 463  Message: 477

David,

After some experimenting with the spacing, I could hear those "dirty dits" when the spacing was too close. The final spacing is very close to but slightly wider than 3/16 inch. The major change was to increase the tension spring as you indicated. The dits sound clean to me.

Our CW net is about to start and I'll see if I can use this bug.

Thanks for the help. I found I1QOD's website and will check it out.

73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2007 10:57 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Troy,

The trade-off for closer spacing than 3/16 inch is that you risk getting bouncing dot contacts. When the vibrator vibrates, the lever doesn't clear correctly and the dots spark. Split dits - some call it.

I recommend more tension on the dot lever to force the operator to give the mainspring more momentum.

Actually magnetic tension as used on I1QOD's bug is perfect. The magnet is very "sticky" when at rest, the operator must over come this, and then the magnet gets less "sticky" as the distance gets longer - so the vibrator really crashes into the dot spring. His is an excellent design.

He also makes probably the best hand key in the world - the Italian Coast Station key. It is a improved copy of the old Marconi pre 1930 key (PS213 I believe).

Some Marconi keys http://www.morsemad.com/coast.htm<http://www.morsemad.com/coast.htm>
and here http://www.morsemad.com/marconi.htm<http://www.morsemad.com/marconi.htm>

And also on this page of Marine keys
http://www.morsemad.com/marine.htm<http://www.morsemad.com/marine.htm>

I1QOD's absolutely GORGEOUS keys are seen here:
http://www.i1qod.it/prima.htm<http://www.i1qod.it/prima.htm>
You will have to click "vertical" under keys to see the straight keys.

73

David N1EA

# 478. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I1QOD's keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 17:37:46 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 472  Message: 478

At 11:14 AM 5/20/2007, Toni Herrera wrote:
>--- In <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com,
>"w2blc" <flyer@...> wrote:
> >
> > Anyone have a clue about his prices and time delays? The straight key
> > he builds does look interesting.
> >
>
>I use his keys, have the model Streigt Key "Marconi 123",
>others also his semiautomatic model of two shovels and iambic Key.
>
>Make a page Web so that all the companions could see the keys that the
>Alberto friend makes, single work by order and takes of two to
>three months in fabricarte the key.
>
>The page Web is:
>
><http://keys-i1qod.ea3re.com/>http://keys-i1qod.ea3re.com/

OH... MY... GOSH...

I don't think I've EVER seen such a beautiful bug -- that
brushed/polished(?) brass is just marvelous in that application...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 479. Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 18:10:47 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 474  Message: 479

Haven't had the pleasure of working you, David, and I haven't used a sideswiper in a very long time. However, I work Bob, W6BNB, frequently and his cootie is great (Bob is 94 this year!). I will have to listen in and see how it goes.

Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> ; cw@...<mailto:cw@...> ; skcc@yahoogroups.com<mailto:skcc@yahoogroups.com> ; brasspounders@yahoogroups.com<mailto:brasspounders@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 20, 2007 8:35 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Listen, or even better - JOIN IN.

1700 UTC on 14055 kHz. Listen for CQ SSN. We usually go up to 21055 kHz to see if conditions are better up there for the majority. If so, we stay there, if not, we return to 20 meters. Sometimes stations are late, so keep the receiver tuned in.

F5LAW, W6BNB, N1EA, W9OK and others will probably be there.

BEGINNERS are encouraged to join in - two or three years ago - about one third of the members had NEVER sent on the air with the sideswiper. We were good operators so we tried like the dickens to sound good - but we weren't at first - but due to pride we quickly humbled ourselves and we all produce good code with that darn key!

Please - even if you have cold feet - LISTEN.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 480. Re: [cw_bugs] I1QOD's keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-20 20:02:44 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 472  Message: 480

Alberto's Semimagnetico is $445 and the Deluxe model is $510
73,
Milt k4oso

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 481. Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-21 09:22:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 474  Message: 481
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 482. Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-21 09:48:34 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 463  Message: 482

I measured the spacing on mine and posted the measurement: 2 mm - I wrote a long email and it was about bugs - how to use, adjust and so forth. Questions that come up.

I'm sure you can find it by searching the archives of this group.

I measured that a good spacing between the dot contacts (post and spring contacts) is 2 mm. This was the minimum spacing that I could achieve without bouncing the dot contacts.

2 millimeters = 0.0787 inches
3/16 inches = 0.1875 inches
3/32 inches = 0.09375 inches

So I was probably talking about 3/32 inch spacing in my comments which would come out to about the same measurement.

This was the minimum spacing - with slower speeds wider spacing feels and works better - just like a hand key. Send slow - space wide.

73

David "Send Slow, Space Wide" N1EA
Beating assorted metal into mangled morse for more years than long winded phone operators can talk.

=30=

On 5/21/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> David,
>
> After some experimenting with the spacing, I could hear those "dirty dits" when the spacing was too close. The final spacing is very close to but slightly wider than 3/16 inch. The major change was to increase the tension spring as you indicated. The dits sound clean to me.
>
> Our CW net is about to start and I'll see if I can use this bug.
>
> Thanks for the help. I found I1QOD's website and will check it out.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> ----- Original Message -----

> From: David Ring
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Saturday, May 19, 2007 10:57 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] New to the group
>
> Troy,
>
> The trade-off for closer spacing than 3/16 inch is that you risk getting bouncing dot contacts. When the vibrator vibrates, the lever doesn't clear correctly and the dots spark. Split dits - some call it.
>
> I recommend more tension on the dot lever to force the operator to give the mainspring more momentum.
>

# 483. Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-21 16:01:32 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 474  Message: 483

David,

Well, here I am with egg on my face. Better go and look through the log! Yes, I always enjoy reading Bob's articles. His style is very easy to read and understand. Glad Bill, W6EET, made the net! He does have a very sweet cootie fist. Haven't had a QSO with him in several weeks due to miserable conditions on 40 meters.

73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2007 2:22 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Troy,

You and I have worked many times! Yes, old Bob can send with a side swiper faster and better than I can. He still is a fresh mentally as a twenty year old. He is worthy of admiration and his book "Electronic Communication" has been in print for about 54 years and is still used at colleges from Harvard to University of Hawaii - I saw his book at the Harvard Co-Op Bookstore back in the 1970s, and started reading it. I was all set to say "Such intelectual hog wash!" - but instead it read as if the man actually knew what he was talking about.

The first edition in 1953 (or '52?) even had several pages about spark transmitters, adjustment and use - they were still in use at that time at some coastal maritime stations and on ships! He also had several pages about arc transmitters - and methods of keying - including methods of eliminating the backwave by frequency shift.

The sideswiper is a "sideways straight key with the ability to contact in both directions" - it is a "swing key" - it goes left, right, left, right. Good advice for those who use bugs or keyers - or who wish to - is to start each letter with the side with which you'd use on a bug. This minimizes errors when shifting from 'swiper to bug to keyer.

We had a new entry today with his sweet cootie fist: W6EET.

We had six people on the net today but I was the only person who could copy everyone! (I was net control station.)

73

David N1EA

# 484. Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-21 16:22:11 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 474  Message: 484

It is better to have egg in the fry pan, Troy.

No problems - I think our last QSO was very brief. You were chatting with one of the FOC boys - someone I needed on 20 meters for "two bands" - so I called you and then talked to him. I had the unfortunate experience of being re-sponsored last year when my beat was 90 degrees towards the UK - not a good thing when you need a UK sponsor!

One of the best - if not the best - cootie keys is made by using a Vibrokeyer and shorting the dash/dot together. Some of changed the knob button to a paddle shaped affair but that isn't needed. Also taking a bug and wrapping the vibrator with a rubber band and securing it to the damper so it doesn't move is what BNB prefers. You have to move the dot contact closer, but this method allows you to use cootie simply by just readjusting a bug - take off the rubber band, and readjust back to the original, and you have a bug again - BNB does this during a QSO. It is rather fast.

73

DR

David N1EA

On 5/22/07, Troy, W6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> David,
>
> Well, here I am with egg on my face. Better go and look through the log! Yes, I always enjoy reading Bob's articles. His style is very easy to read and understand. Glad Bill, W6EET, made the net! He does have a very sweet cootie fist. Haven't had a QSO with him in several weeks due to miserable conditions on 40 meters.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: David Ring
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Monday, May 21, 2007 2:22 AM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Side Swiper Net - Reminder!
>
> Troy,

>
> You and I have worked many times! Yes, old Bob can send with a side swiper faster and better than I can. He still is a fresh mentally as a twenty year old. He is worthy of admiration and his book "Electronic Communication" has been in print for about 54 years and is still used at colleges from Harvard to University of Hawaii - I saw his book at the Harvard Co-Op Bookstore back in the 1970s, and started reading it. I was all set to say "Such intelectual hog wash!" - but instead it read as if the man actually knew what he was talking about.
>
> The first edition in 1953 (or '52?) even had several pages about spark transmitters, adjustment and use - they were still in use at that time at some coastal maritime stations and on ships! He also had several pages about arc transmitters - and methods of keying - including methods of eliminating the backwave by frequency shift.
>
> The sideswiper is a "sideways straight key with the ability to contact in both directions" - it is a "swing key" - it goes left, right, left, right. Good advice for those who use bugs or keyers - or who wish to - is to start each letter with the side with which you'd use on a bug. This minimizes errors when shifting from 'swiper to bug to keyer.
>
> We had a new entry today with his sweet cootie fist: W6EET.
>
> We had six people on the net today but I was the only person who could copy everyone! (I was net control station.)
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA

# 485. Producing Better Dots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 02:57:02 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 485  Message: 485

Bug ops,
Well, curiosity finally got the better of me and I decided to try the key contact cleaning strips that are ALWAYS advertised on Ebay. I know you've seen them. Well, I was very pleasantly surprised that they work, and work well. So far, I've tried one on several bugs and the results are readily noticeable....right away! Really cleans up my scratchy dots. I had previously been using silver polish..with pretty good results, but not nearly as spectacular as this. I'm sure the price per square inch for these things is exorbatant, and the shipping is also pricey. But they will last a looong time, and we're not exactly talking high finance!:-) I wonder if anyone else has tried these strips? I also tried the piece of cotton trick in the "U" of my dot contact spring on my Blue Racer with very good results. All in the name of producing better dots.....
ZUT 73,
Milt

# 486. dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 14:31:54 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 486  Message: 486

the high current keying circuits of old would quickly pit the contacts. the present low current keying circuits don't. However, the silver still tarnishes.

On all the old bugs I have "restored," I have put the dot contacts to the polishing wheel, making both contacts mirror smooth and convexed so they can slide smoothly over one another. the modern solid-state circuitry may still try to follow even the briefest of make-breaks as all contacts will bounce. It is generally sufficient to put a .1 capacitor across the keying input of the radio (across the key in other words) to bridge such gaps.

Once those things are done, there should be no such thing as scratchy dits.

73,

Fred - kt5x

# 487. Collections

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 14:43:35 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 487  Message: 487

Hello,

I don't have a bug in my collection. I do have a small number of paddles. I was feeling funny about having a collection of Morse equipment until I saw the collection of W3ZVT in the photos section. Now I don't feel so bad. Hi!

# 488. Fabric Covered Wire

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 19:36:45 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 488  Message: 488

Does anyone know where I can get the fabric covered wire such as was used on the bug wedges. It is usually very flexible and has an extra cord for a strain relief. I would like to make some wedges and need some of this wire.

73,

Don, NN8B

# 489. Re: Fabric Covered Wire

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 19:43:53 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 488  Message: 489

Don,

Not sure if this is what you are looking for, but Radio Daze has
Fabric covered wire.

Rick N6NKN-

-- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Don" <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> Does anyone know where I can get the fabric covered wire such as was
> used on the bug wedges. It is usually very flexible and has an extra
> cord for a strain relief. I would like to make some wedges and need
> some of this wire.
>
> 73,
>
> Don, NN8B
>

# 490. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fabric Covered Wire

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 20:00:51 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 488  Message: 490

Rick,
Thank You. That does look promising.
They have a 3 wire cloth covered that may do the trick.

On 5/25/07, Richard Zolla <N8NKN@...> wrote:
> > Don,
>
> Not sure if this is what you are looking for, but Radio Daze has
> Fabric covered wire.
>
> Rick N6NKN-
>
>--

73,
Don, NN8B

# 491. Re: [cw_bugs] Fabric Covered Wire

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-25 21:44:20 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 488  Message: 491

At 01:36 PM 5/25/2007, Don wrote:
>Does anyone know where I can get the fabric covered wire such as was
>used on the bug wedges. It is usually very flexible and has an extra
>cord for a strain relief. I would like to make some wedges and need
>some of this wire.

If you're close to an Air Force base that has F-16's, and if
you know someone in the electric shop, you might (MIGHT) be able to
talk them into braiding some wire for you -- the F-16 is full of
it. Unfortunately I'm retired, so can't offer to do it myself.

7 3
Earl

P.S. I see the old wedges on eBay a bit...

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 492. Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 02:27:37 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 492  Message: 492

Hello bug gurus,

I have a Champion bug, my only bug, vintage 1973 according to the serial number. I have restored it with Flitz metal polish, cleaned everything, and even lubricated the trunion. It has a Vari-Speed with a one ounce weight. The dit rate is around 16 wpm. Yet my first dit after a dah is noticeably scratchy. Sometimes the first dit from a resting state is equally scratchy if I don't hit the dot side firmly.

I have searched the archives on this group and tried everything I can think of. I even tried a .1 cap per one recent suggestion on this group. It is a disc cap and does not make any difference.

I have a new dot spring on the way from Vibroplex. I local friend of mine suggested it. BTW, my friend said you could not hear the scratches over the air. My signal was S9 at this QTH, some 15 miles or so away, on 40 meters. I can hear it when monitoring my signal on a different rig. Apparently, the S/N has to be pretty high to hear the scratches.

I am at my last straw on this one and out of ideas. I welcome any suggestions.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 493. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 02:59:57 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 493

Check the face to face ] [ alignment of the dot contacts, make sure the dot spring is not loose, check the terminal screw bottom bolt - usually the ground one often it will be loose against the base (which is the ground path) but the top screw is tight - it is a hard problem to find.

Also - what is the source of your listening? Sidetone? Remember many side tones aren't the derived audio from a monitor circuit. ICOM's newer rigs derive the monitor from a detector, but not the sidetone for CW. So your hearing your real voice but not your real keying!

Listen with a spare receiver - take off the antenna, roll back the r.f. gain until you can barely hear the signal - then you'll know if you have scratchy dots.

73
DR

"There are three sorts of people; those who are alive, those who are dead, and those who are at sea."
- Anacharsis, 6th Century BC
=30=

# 494. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 02:59:18 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 492  Message: 494

Cut a small piece of sponge and fit it into the "U" shape on the dot spring. If you look at some of theMcElroy keys they had a small wire pretensioner on the dot spring, a small piece of sponge or foam rubber will do the same thing.
73
Tim W3ZVT

n6vl wrote:

> Hello bug gurus,
>
> I have a Champion bug, my only bug, vintage 1973 according to the
> serial number. I have restored it with Flitz metal polish, cleaned
> everything, and even lubricated the trunion. It has a Vari-Speed with
> a one ounce weight. The dit rate is around 16 wpm. Yet my first dit
> after a dah is noticeably scratchy. Sometimes the first dit from a
> resting state is equally scratchy if I don't hit the dot side firmly.
>
> I have searched the archives on this group and tried everything I can
> think of. I even tried a .1 cap per one recent suggestion on this
> group. It is a disc cap and does not make any difference.
>
> I have a new dot spring on the way from Vibroplex. I local friend of
> mine suggested it. BTW, my friend said you could not hear the
> scratches over the air. My signal was S9 at this QTH, some 15 miles
> or so away, on 40 meters. I can hear it when monitoring my signal on
> a different rig. Apparently, the S/N has to be pretty high to hear
> the scratches.
>
> I am at my last straw on this one and out of ideas. I welcome any
> suggestions.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>

# 495. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 03:52:41 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 492  Message: 495

A plain, small wad of cotton will work also. You may want to try the contact cleaners you see advertised on ebay. I think they help with the alignment of the two contact faces, since the two sides of the cleaner (which are parallel) are polishing both contacts at the same time. They helped my scratchy dots after only one use.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 5/30/2007 8:01:18 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, tims@... writes:

Cut a small piece of sponge and fit it into the "U" shape on the dot spring. If you look at some of theMcElroy keys they had a small wire pretensioner on the dot spring, a small piece of sponge or foam rubber will do the same thing.
73
Tim W3ZVT

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 496. Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 05:29:06 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 492  Message: 496

How do you use those cleaners with the dot spring? The pictures show paddles, not bugs. It is easier to get pressure on both sides of the cleaner.

73,

Steve N6VL

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@... wrote:
>
>
> A plain, small wad of cotton will work also. You may want to try the
> contact cleaners you see advertised on ebay. I think they help with the alignment
> of the two contact faces, since the two sides of the cleaner (which are
> parallel) are polishing both contacts at the same time. They helped my scratchy
> dots after only one use.
> 73, Milt k4oso

# 497. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 05:39:11 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 492  Message: 497

Steve,
You place the cleaner strip between the contacts as in the picture, and simply hold the contacts closed by exerting the normal pressure on the thumb piece. No more pressure is needed. Then you slide it straight through a couples of times. Voila!
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 5/30/2007 10:31:43 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n6vl@... writes:

How do you use those cleaners with the dot spring? The pictures show paddles, not bugs. It is easier to get pressure on both sides of the cleaner.

73,

Steve N6VL

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 498. Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 15:10:09 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 492  Message: 498

Milt,

Hmmm, I thought that dot spring would reduce pressure on the strip too much. I have a few on the way now. I've seen the listing on ebay many times and never gave it a second thought. I will have to see how well it helps my scratchy dits.

The cotton does help some. But I'd rather not use it permanently.

One thing I've noticed is that the dot spring will produce a bunch of false dits while trying adjustments. I then adjust until the false dits disappear. I think if I find the reason for the extra dits, I'll have found the reason for the scratchy dits.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 499. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 15:42:38 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 499

The spring will move if you try to use the cleaning strip or a burnishing tool, so you need to put your finger behind the spring to stop it from moving. You can also remove the spring, insert a a piece of cardboard (or the cover from a hard backed book - or similar) to hold the spring. Or when you have it off, you can just use the strip or burnishing tool and push the spring down - but this isn't as good because the spring wiggles back and forth. Cardboard from a medium size box works best for me.

73

DR

On 5/31/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> Milt,
>
> Hmmm, I thought that dot spring would reduce pressure on the strip too
> much.

# 500. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 16:22:33 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 492  Message: 500

Steve,
I have opened up the space of the dot stop screw so the arm travels further before it contacts the dot contact on the post. I also found that if I rotate the dot contace screw on the post to the right or left a little I get a better match for the contact area of the dot spring. both of these methods cured my scratchy dots. Plus, of course, cleaning the contacts which you have done.

On 5/30/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Hello bug gurus,
>
> I have a Champion bug, my only bug, vintage 1973 according to the
> serial number. I have restored it with Flitz metal polish, cleaned
> everything, and even lubricated the trunion. It has a Vari-Speed with
> a one ounce weight. The dit rate is around 16 wpm. Yet my first dit
> after a dah is noticeably scratchy. Sometimes the first dit from a
> resting state is equally scratchy if I don't hit the dot side firmly.
>.
> > I am at my last straw on this one and out of ideas. I welcome any
> suggestions.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>--
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C
Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 501. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 16:40:35 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 492  Message: 501

Steve,
I'm not sure what you mean by "false dit"???
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 5/31/2007 8:12:33 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time,
n6vl@... writes:

One thing I've noticed is that the dot spring will produce a bunch of
false dits while trying adjustments.

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 502. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 16:45:29 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 492  Message: 502

Steve,
Of course the spring will move when you insert the cleaning strip. However, the spring will hold the cleaning strip with enough pressure to do the job. Squeezing the spring to force the contact against the cleaning strip is not recommended. Only the minimum pressure exerted by the spring is needed. Repeat: I have used these strips and I would not recommend finger pressure behind the spring.
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 5/31/2007 8:46:06 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, n1ea@... writes:

The spring will move if you try to use the cleaning strip or a burnishing tool, so you need to put your finger behind the spring to stop it from moving. You can also remove the spring, insert a a piece of cardboard (or the cover from a hard backed book - or similar) to hold the spring. Or when you have it off, you can just use the strip or burnishing tool and push the spring down - but this isn't as good because the spring wiggles back and forth. Cardboard from a medium size box works best for me.

73

DR

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 503. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-05-31 17:23:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 503
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 504. RE: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 01:57:39 UTC
From: Steve Kallal
Topic: 492  Message: 504

Don,

I curious about the amount of travel you have for the dot side. I just measured mine and its 1/16 inch already. I don't want to go too wide.

73,

Steve N6VL

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Donald Kemp
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2007 9:23 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Steve,
I have opened up the space of the dot stop screw so the arm travels further before it contacts the dot contact on the post. I also found that if I rotate the dot contace screw on the post to the right or left a little I get a better match for the contact area of the dot spring. both of these methods cured my scratchy dots. Plus, of course, cleaning the contacts which you have done.

On 5/30/07, n6vl <n6vl@... <mailto:n6vl%40yahoo.com> > wrote:
>
> Hello bug gurus,
>
> I have a Champion bug, my only bug, vintage 1973 according to the
> serial number. I have restored it with Flitz metal polish, cleaned
> everything, and even lubricated the trunion. It has a Vari-Speed with
> a one ounce weight. The dit rate is around 16 wpm. Yet my first dit
> after a dah is noticeably scratchy. Sometimes the first dit from a
> resting state is equally scratchy if I don't hit the dot side firmly.
>.
> > I am at my last straw on this one and out of ideas. I welcome any
> suggestions.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>--
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C

Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 505. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 02:00:57 UTC
From: Steve Kallal
Topic: 492  Message: 505

Milt,

By false dits, I am referring to what sounds like extra dits, some sort of mechanical resonance where the dits sound like their double speed.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 506. RE: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 02:02:44 UTC
From: Steve Kallal
Topic: 492  Message: 506

Don,

I tried a much wider gap and travel and the problem still persists.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 507. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 02:48:21 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 507

Your right about at the minimum - about 2 mm is about right. You're probably at the point where your going to get sputtering dots - remember a bug isn't like a paddle. You have to slam the dot contacts together to get them to bounce. It sounds like your at minimum spacing. 1/16 to 3/32 is about the MINIMUM you can space dot contacts.

In any event the adjustment is going to be VERY ciritical at that close spacing.

I thought you were a slow sender? You don't need that type of closeness, also if you're not sending at 40 wpm, and you want a low slow range, you way too close. That kind of spacing is needed only at extreme speeds.

At about 20 wpm (or less) your spacing should be about 1/4 inch or so.

73

DR

On 6/1/07, Steve Kallal <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
>
> Don,
>
> I curious about the amount of travel you have for the dot side. I just measured mine and its 1/16 inch already. I don't want to go too wide.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL

# 508. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 03:51:10 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 492  Message: 508

Steve,
I checked 3 of my bugs and the space for the dot stop is about 1/16", could be 3/32" on one of them.
The space on the dot contacts is about 1/8". That would be plus or minus depending on where I got the best dot sound by turning the dot contact screw. So it would be plus or minus 1/64" if the threads are 32/inch.
The absolute ideal position of the contacts would be if both were flat and would close to 100% contact.
I don't think this is possible in the real world. If one of the contacts are not completely parallel with the other, then when they strike one another it may try to twist the dot spring to try to find parallel and cause a scratch. By turning the dot contact screw you will be trying to find the best parallel position of the contacts.
Alignment of the contacts by rotating the dot contact post and or bending the dot contact spring slightly so they are exactly parallel when they are closed will also help.
I also set the contact to be closed when the arm is at rest against the stop.
I use an analog meter on the ohms scale times one and adjust the dot contact screw so it reads about 60% of full scale when oscillating.
Then adjust for the best sounding dot while trying to maintain the 60% reading.
If you leave it to slow down it will gradually go to 100% closed.
You mentioned using a bug tamer or some slow down device. It's my theory that the devices that are above the arm can cause a torsional vibration that may cause dot contact bounce and thus sound like a scratchy contact. If it is possible to lower the device and extend it beyond the damper, try that to see if the scratches go away or are reduced. Or just remove the device and see how they sound. I use an extension of the arm that puts the weight on the center line of the arm but beyond the damper. This will allow a much smaller weight to achieve the slower speed and also reduce the mass of the arm giving it a smoother feel. I have found that using the extension with a 0.8 oz. weight gives me about the same speed as using two 1 oz weights on the arm with a lot less mass and easier movement of the arm.
These are only the things I have found with my limited bug experience to cure my scratches. Indeed, you may find something completely different.
For such a small device as these bugs are, there are a many things to think about when adjusting them.
When you find it let us know.

On 5/31/07, Steve Kallal <n6vl@...> wrote:
> Don,
>

> I tried a much wider gap and travel and the problem still persists.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 509. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 04:10:55 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 492  Message: 509

Don,
Just FYI --- I was told that the old Blue Racers at one time had dot contacts, one of which was conical in shape. I don't know (or remember) which one but it was probably the moving contact. Anyway, I'll bet one of those would go a long way toward curing some of our bug problems, eh?
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 5/31/2007 8:51:52 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, nn8b.oh@... writes:

The absolute ideal position of the contacts would be if both were flat and would close to 100% contact.
I don't think this is possible in the real world. If one of the contacts are not completely parallel with the other, then when they strike one another it may try to twist the dot spring to try to find parallel and cause a scratch. By turning the dot contact screw you will be trying to find the best parallel position of the contacts. Alignment of the contacts by rotating the dot contact post and or bending the dot contact spring slightly so they are exactly parallel when they are closed will also help.

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 510. Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 04:13:13 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 492  Message: 510

Don,

What is difference between space on dot stop and space on dot contacts?

I think I know what you mean by space on dot contacts. It would be the space between the dot spring contact and the stationary dot contact. That is the space I was quoting earlier as 1/6 inch. If I open that space to 1/8 inch it feels very wide, but it does clear up most of the scratches.

Is the space on dot stop, the distance between the lever and the dot set screw that stops the travel? I haven't measured that yet.

If your measurements are correct, then I have been running very narrow. I will have to ask my local friend what he is using.

I guess it really helps to be specific on these groups when diagnosing problems.

Don, if you are using that much travel, how do you ever send at higher speeds. I have read where a bug is stroked with the end of the palm resting on the table. I can't imagine how a bug could be keyed at 30 wpm for example. Of course there is a lot less weight to move at those speeds. Maybe that explains it.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 511. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 05:20:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 511

Milt,

My 1919 Blue Racer has flat contacts as do my WW2 and post WW2 BR keys.

I remember discussing contacts with Steven Nurkewitz (former N2DAN now silent key) who made the Mercury Paddles during the 1980-1990s -- he was right both contacts should be convex so that they will always meet.

One trick the old telegraphers used was to pivor the dot contact post so tht the side of the contact met the flat of the dot spring contact.

At any direction, the contact will contact and not bounce.

This is a much better idea than damping the dot spring with cotton, foam rubber etc - you need that spring to spring back and give a good push!

As I said in my previous post (did it go through?) 1/8 spacing between the dot contacts at rest is about the MINIMUM you can have. 1.5 to 2.0 mm is about right.

If you're sending 20 wpm or so you need about 3/16 to 1/4 inch spacing of the dot contacts to get to that slow speed. If you need to go slower, you have to go to a wider spacing. I remember using about 1/2 inch spacing to work Novices in the old novice band days.

That 1/8 spacing (and slightly smaller) is only what you need to do 40 wpm and faster. And it is very difficult to adjust - but by the time you can send 40 wpm with a bug you're probably pretty good at adjusting it.

73

DR

# 512. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 12:55:10 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 492  Message: 512

Steve,

On 6/1/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> Don,
>
> What is difference between space on dot stop and space on dot
> contacts?

My spacing for the dot stop screw to the arm is 1/16" and the spacing between the dot contacts at rest is 1/8".

> Is the space on dot stop, the distance between the lever and the dot
> set screw that stops the travel? I haven't measured that yet.

Yes, that's the place to measure the stop spacing.

> Don, if you are using that much travel, how do you ever send at
> higher speeds. I have read where a bug is stroked with the end of the
> palm resting on the table. I can't imagine how a bug could be keyed
> at 30 wpm for example. Of course there is a lot less weight to move
> at those speeds. Maybe that explains it.

I am not a high speed operator yet. I am working on improving my speed, but at this time sending at about 25 is max for me. I have set up my bugs individually and when I just measured them they are actually all pretty close to those measurements I quoted above.

I have also lightened the spring pressures on the dot and dash springs for easier keying. This feels better to me but you would need to experiment with your pressures.

My operating position may not be the normally accepted position. I have found that I am resting my elbow on the arm of my chair and the right side of my hand is resting on the table. I try to use a rocking motion to key the bug. Sometimes I find I am also using my fingers to key it and consciously go back to the rocking motion.
I amy not be doing this correctly. I believe David has writted a guide about the proper positioning of the hand and fingers,

> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 513. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 13:24:02 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 492  Message: 513

Hi MIlt,
I just checked the 2 Blue Racers I have. The 1962 Delux is flat on both contacts. These ones are like a mirror, they have never been touched with any abrasives. I really think this key had never been used before I got it.
The 1960 Blue Racer has been used and the contacts do not appear to be flat. Whether that's by design or caused by burnishing is unknown. They both appear to have a radius.

My new 100th Anniversary Original does have convex contacts. Both are convex. In my opinion that would be a better arrangement than a flat set of contacts. No matter where the moving contact hit the stationary contact it would be a solid strike and not trying to twist the dot spring.

I believe David once wrote about moving the stationary contact by turning the post to pivot the contact surface to accomplish the same effect. That would cause the movable contact to hit at a point like it would if they were convex. David's method would certainly be best on contacts that were not convex and not perfectly parallel, which would probably cover most bugs. I may very well be that my adjustment of the dot contact screw to find the sweet spot was doing the same thing to a lesser degree and indeed may not work on all bugs where David's idea would.

Your correct, using a convex contact would probably cure the problems on older bugs or bugs with badly worn contacts. It would certainly make contact alignment much less critical. They are available from Vibroplex. If anyone calls Vibroplex I would ask if the replacement contacts are convex.

On 6/1/07, k4oso@... <k4oso@...> wrote:
>>
> Don,
> Just FYI --- I was told that the old Blue Racers at one time had dot contacts, one of which was conical in shape. I don't know (or remember) which one but it was probably the moving contact. Anyway, I'll bet one of those would go a long way toward curing some of our bug problems, eh?
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 514. Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 17:49:55 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 492  Message: 514

David,
I wonder which bug you were using to get 1/2" spacing at the dot
contacts. None of my bugs will open more than 1/4". They include
Originals, Blue Racers (old), Champions, a Lightning Bug, and a
McElroy.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Milt,
>
>
> As I said in my previous post (did it go through?) 1/8 spacing
between
> the dot contacts at rest is about the MINIMUM you can have. 1.5 to
> 2.0 mm is about right.
>
> If you're sending 20 wpm or so you need about 3/16 to 1/4 inch
spacing
> of the dot contacts to get to that slow speed. If you need to go
> slower, you have to go to a wider spacing. I remember using about
1/2
> inch spacing to work Novices in the old novice band days.
>
> That 1/8 spacing (and slightly smaller) is only what you need to do
40
> wpm and faster. And it is very difficult to adjust - but by the
time
> you can send 40 wpm with a bug you're probably pretty good at
> adjusting it.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>

# 515. Members

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 19:29:06 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 515  Message: 515

We have just reached the magic "100" members! This list is
doing really well.

Latest member is Sarah of Houston, Texas, Amateur Extra call
W0HXO. Sarah also adds:

>SKCC 2326, FISTS 13016, NAQCC 1613, FP 1495.
>Main interests QRP + CW. Licensed since 1958.

Welcome es 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 516. Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 19:42:23 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 492  Message: 516

I just have to toss this into the mix:

My Vibroplxes (all in the past tense) always had a scratchy dit problem. I bought a Johnson 114-500 (I think it was) and most of the problem went away. Later I bought a VizBug 90 Degree and all the problem went away.

The VizBug is now the only bug I own. No squeaks or scratches - great key. If I can make it work, anyone can make it work.

# 517. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-01 21:21:30 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 517

Milt,

You are right. I didn't measure the wide spacing before speaking - I just did - and your right the maximum is 1/4 inch.

The customary spacing for dot contacts would be between 1/8 inch and 3/16 inches. I measure everything in metric because it is easier to convert the fractions! 1/16 inch is too narrow.

To slow a bug way down I open the bug all the way up - near about 1/4 inch. The huge motion in the dot direction helps moderate the sender to send slow dashes - you have to use every trick at that speed to force the operator from sending short dot-to-dash spaces and short dashes. It is very difficult for me to send dashes that long!

Thanks for the correction.

73

DR

On 6/2/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> David,
> I wonder which bug you were using to get 1/2" spacing at the dot
> contacts. None of my bugs will open more than 1/4". They include
> Originals, Blue Racers (old), Champions, a Lightning Bug, and a
> McElroy.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> >
> > Milt,
> >
> >
> > As I said in my previous post (did it go through?) 1/8 spacing
> between
> > the dot contacts at rest is about the MINIMUM you can have. 1.5 to
> > 2.0 mm is about right.
> >
> > If you're sending 20 wpm or so you need about 3/16 to 1/4 inch
> spacing
> > of the dot contacts to get to that slow speed. If you need to go
> > slower, you have to go to a wider spacing. I remember using about
> 1/2
> > inch spacing to work Novices in the old novice band days.
> >
> > That 1/8 spacing (and slightly smaller) is only what you need to do

> 40
> > wpm and faster. And it is very difficult to adjust - but by the
> time
> > you can send 40 wpm with a bug you're probably pretty good at
> > adjusting it.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > DR
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 518. Re: [cw_bugs] Assistance - Les Logan

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 01:27:24 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 518  Message: 518
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 519. Re: [cw_bugs] Assistance - Les Logan

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 01:44:44 UTC
From: BPCI
Topic: 518  Message: 519

Grover, You don't happen to have an extra Les Logan T-Bar you would want to trade for an E.F.Johnson 114-520 Speed X in the original box do you? The 114-520-1 has the type of weight you want on it.

Ci Jones, WU7R
FISTS #10789, CC# 1853
SKCC #22, C#38
NAQCC #306
QRPARCI #12163

In a message dated 06/01/07 19:28:45 Mountain Daylight Time, clevelandg@... writes:
I have a few Les Logans that need these

# 520. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 02:33:02 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 492  Message: 520

At 08:48 PM 5/31/2007, David Ring wrote:
>I thought you were a slow sender? You don't need that type of
>closeness, also if you're not sending at 40 wpm, and you want a low
>slow range, you way too close. That kind of spacing is needed only
>at extreme speeds.
>
>At about 20 wpm (or less) your spacing should be about 1/4 inch or so.

You're talking about the spacing between the CONTACTS, or
the arm and stops?

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 521. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 02:47:13 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 521
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 522. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy first dit after a dah...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 02:49:12 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 492  Message: 522
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 523. Re: [cw_bugs] Assistance - Les Logan

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 14:50:31 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 518  Message: 523
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 524. Another one

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-02 21:31:21 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 524  Message: 524

Welcome Bill, member #101.

>Comment from user:
>I am W4WLW. Love CW. Let me IN!
>Thanks
>73
>Bill

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 525. Icom 718 as a CW rig

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 11:38:25 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 525  Message: 525

I have been giving consideration to setting up a CW only side of my station. Originally, I only considered a Ten-Tec rig - used of course. I don't need or want all the features offered on their latest entries to the market - and the price is just way too high for what I need to do.

Enter the Icom 718. I have seen several mentions of ops using these rigs as CW stations. I understand there is a short coming of only a single filter - but, I only need 500 Hz.

I sure would like to hear from some folks using the 718 and get some of the pros and cons.

Currently I am using a Kenwood 480. Great rig! But, I yearn for a CW only dedicated rig. Of course, another 480 isn't out of the question either.

I use a Flame Proof and a VizBug 90 Degree.

So, what say you?

# 526. first straight key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 13:16:11 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 526  Message: 526
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

This is the first (and thus) only straight key in my modest collection of keying devices. Generally I don't use straight keys, therefore didn't have any in my "collection." But I thought it reasonable to have at least one, and if one, then it ought to be quite different.

This key is to my eye a piece of art, so I have been on the lookout for one for several years without luck, until I managed to trade for it.

It is called a GPO Double Current key. These were used in UK and the colonies, hence would not be found and very rarely seen in the states. It is two keys in parallel with a switch to move both out of line for receive. It keys in such a way that polarity is reversed on the line with keying doubling the potential difference and the distance one can go without a relay.

Brass versions of the key were used in UK while nickel versions used in the Colonies. Mine is a nickel plated one having been used in Singapore...

It has been surprising to me how comfortable the grab handle is compared to the flat handles on pump keys generally found here. I seem to be able to produce fairly nice sounding Morse with this arrangement. The hole box beneath housing the mechanis of the switches, placed on a table, creates something of a sounding box. Pounding out code is amplified and reverberates with a distinctive sound. It has platinum contacts on reed switches that are indepedent of key stops. Resistance is set by a spring that is pulled part rather than pushed together.

Best wishes,

Fred "FD" KT5X

# 527. Re: first straight key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 19:53:28 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 526  Message: 527

```
If there was a picture in the middle of the text - it didn't make it
through to here.
```

# 528. Seen on eBay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 20:07:17 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 528  Message: 528

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&ih=019&sspagename=STRK%3AMEWA%3AIT&viewitem=&item=290121317272&rd=1&rd=1

# 529. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: first straight key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 20:54:35 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 526  Message: 529

Bill,

Fred's picture of the double current key with the little statue of an
Native American chief next to it came through fine here.

If you're subscribing to the digest, pictures don't come with the digest.
Subscribe to direct delivery and you'll get everything.

73

David

On 6/4/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
> If there was a picture in the middle of the text - it didn't make it
> through to here.
>
>

# 530. Re: first straight key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-03 22:31:09 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 526  Message: 530

I don't subscribe to anything - I read it on line. That's is why I
was surprised not to see the key.

Bill W2BLC

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Bill,
>
> Fred's picture of the double current key with the little statue of
an
> Native American chief next to it came through fine here.
>
> If you're subscribing to the digest, pictures don't come with the
digest.
> Subscribe to direct delivery and you'll get everything.
>
> 73
>
> David
>
> On 6/4/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
> > If there was a picture in the middle of the text - it didn't make
it
> > through to here.
> >
> >
>

# 531. Re: Icom 718 as a CW rig

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-04 13:26:46 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 525  Message: 531

Years ago as a tech striving for my 13wpm General, I owned a drifting Swan 350. Some called it the Swooping Swan. It drifted so badly that a notch filter was not wide enough. Therefore, I learned to listen through the QRM.

The filter limitations that come with the IC-718 are, for the most part, a non issue for me. Howeveer, there are times when the QRM becomes so great that only a madman would continue the battle. That's when I'm glad I have a motorcycle.

Bill, you're not alone in thinking that a CW ONLY station is a great idea.

I remember a dozen years back when I used to join others at 3995 for the Traffic Handlers Net at 2230 hours. Often, a retired railroad agent would come on frequency using CW to announce in International Morse that he had traffic to pass. We would follow him down to 3587. Vic Seeburger, K7VSN (I think) also a railroad man, would pick up the traffic using American Morse. And when the traffic was passed we'd all go bock to 3995.

Some said the old fellow didn't own a microphone, nor did he plan on buying one.

Rich days, those were.

73 de n7net

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <flyer@...> wrote:
>
> I have been giving consideration to setting up a CW only side of my
> station. Originally, I only considered a Ten-Tec rig - used of
course.
> I don't need or want all the features offered on their latest
entries
> to the market - and the price is just way too high for what I need
to
> do.
>
> Enter the Icom 718. I have seen several mentions of ops using these
> rigs as CW stations. I understand there is a short coming of only a
> single filter - but, I only need 500 Hz.
>
> I sure would like to hear from some folks using the 718 and get
some of
> the pros and cons.
>

> Currently I am using a Kenwood 480. Great rig! But, I yearn for a
CW
> only dedicated rig. Of course, another 480 isn't out of the
question
> either.
>
> I use a Flame Proof and a VizBug 90 Degree.
>
> So, what say you?
>

# 532. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Icom 718 as a CW rig

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-04 13:38:17 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 525  Message: 532

At 07:26 AM 6/4/2007, Scott Laughlin wrote:

>Years ago as a tech striving for my 13wpm General, I owned a drifting
>Swan 350. Some called it the Swooping Swan.

I had one and always called it a Swan 3-Drifty! And it sure was!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 533. Re: Icom 718 as a CW rig

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-04 15:35:45 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 525  Message: 533

Bill,
First, Any rig I own is a "cw only" rig:-) My cw-only rig is a Kenwood TS-430 with a 500hz cw filter and a homebrew audio filter, built by a buddy of mine. I work tons of cw and the setup works like a charm. I'm sure there are other rigs that run circles around the Knwd, but it just goes to show that you can be very successful with whatcha got. When you make your choice I strongly recommend you get a rig with built-in antenna tuner.
73, Milt k4oso
PS: I worked an op last night who was using a Swan 350 and it was as steady as a rock.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Scott Laughlin" <n7net@...> wrote:
>
> Years ago as a tech striving for my 13wpm General, I owned a drifting
> Swan 350. Some called it the Swooping Swan. It drifted so badly
> that a notch filter was not wide enough. Therefore, I learned to
> listen through the QRM.
>
> The filter limitations that come with the IC-718 are, for the most
> part, a non issue for me. Howeveer, there are times when the QRM
> becomes so great that only a madman would continue the battle.
> That's when I'm glad I have a motorcycle.
>
> Bill, you're not alone in thinking that a CW ONLY station is a great
> idea.
>
> I remember a dozen years back when I used to join others at 3995 for
> the Traffic Handlers Net at 2230 hours. Often, a retired railroad
> agent would come on frequency using CW to announce in International
> Morse that he had traffic to pass. We would follow him down to 3587.
> Vic Seeburger, K7VSN (I think) also a railroad man, would pick up the
> traffic using American Morse. And when the traffic was passed we'd
> all go bock to 3995.
>
> Some said the old fellow didn't own a microphone, nor did he plan on
> buying one.
>
> Rich days, those were.

>
> 73 de n7net
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <flyer@> wrote:
> >
> > I have been giving consideration to setting up a CW only side of
my
> > station. Originally, I only considered a Ten-Tec rig - used of
> course.
> > I don't need or want all the features offered on their latest
> entries
> > to the market - and the price is just way too high for what I
need
> to
> > do.
> >
> > Enter the Icom 718. I have seen several mentions of ops using
these
> > rigs as CW stations. I understand there is a short coming of only
a
> > single filter - but, I only need 500 Hz.
> >
> > I sure would like to hear from some folks using the 718 and get
> some of
> > the pros and cons.
> >
> > Currently I am using a Kenwood 480. Great rig! But, I yearn for a
> CW
> > only dedicated rig. Of course, another 480 isn't out of the
> question
> > either.
> >
> > I use a Flame Proof and a VizBug 90 Degree.
> >
> > So, what say you?
> >
>

# 534. Swan 350

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-04 15:51:26 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 525  Message: 534

At 09:35 AM 6/4/2007, k4oso wrote:
>PS: I worked an op last night who was using a Swan 350 and it was as
>steady as a rock.

I've heard there is some modification out there to improve
the "3-drifty" and he must have done it!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 535. Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-04 21:17:48 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 535  Message: 535

I will be out-of-town, runnin' Garden of the Gods Ten Miler. If you have time, work some of the FOC membership!

73,

Fred - KT5X
FOC # 1636

>> FOC open invitation to all CW ops
>> Join us for 24 hours of CW fun, making QSOs with FOC members on all 6 HF
>> bands (WARC excluded) and VHF. This is an operating event called The
>> Bill
>> Windle
>> QSO Party. The primary purpose is to encourage more CW activity.
>> Stations
>> call CQ BW in any portion of the band from 015 to 040. (On 160, please
>> stay
>> below 025). Nonmembers contact FOC members. Contact each station once
>> per
>> band.
>> Exchange RST and name (FOC members will also send their membership
>> number).
>> Stations are encouraged to also engage in mini-chats, if they so desire.
>> The
>> activity event will run from 0000Z to 2359Z on June 9, 2007. New this
>> year:
>> Certificates will be awarded to the QSO leaders on each continent. A
>> separate
>> certificate will be awarded to an FOC member and nonmember station who
>> reports the highest number of QSOs during the 24 hour period. We still
>> use the
>> honor system. No logs required. Just send in your QSO total to be
>> listed.
>> Nonmembers send total number of QSOs with FOC members (count each QSO
>> once per
>> band). Members will report the number of total QSOs/and separate FOC
>> member QSOs.
>> Email totals only to _KZ5D@..._ (mailto:KZ5D@...) by June 16,
>> 2007.
>> List will be posted on the FOC website.
>

# 536. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 03:01:15 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 535  Message: 536

Now if only we can get some of them to actually answer some of us non-FOC hams, ill be happy to call them. Usually we just get ignored...and my fist is pretty decent too.

73...Adam, N7YA

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "cloud runner" <KT5X@...>
> To: "Steve wd9fjl Keithley" <skeithley1@...>, "Nick KD5QEF Frost" <nickf@...>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9
> Date: Mon, 4 Jun 2007 15:17:48 -0600
>
>
> I will be out-of-town, runnin' Garden of the Gods Ten Miler. If you have
> time, work some of the FOC membership!
>
> 73,
>
> Fred - KT5X
> FOC # 1636
>
> >> FOC open invitation to all CW ops
> >> Join us for 24 hours of CW fun, making QSOs with FOC members on all 6 HF
> >> bands (WARC excluded) and VHF. This is an operating event called The Bill
> >> Windle
> >> QSO Party. The primary purpose is to encourage more CW activity. Stations
> >> call CQ BW in any portion of the band from 015 to 040. (On 160, please
> >> stay
> >> below 025). Nonmembers contact FOC members. Contact each station once per
> >> band.
> >> Exchange RST and name (FOC members will also send their membership
> >> number).
> >> Stations are encouraged to also engage in mini-chats, if they so desire.
> >> The
> >> activity event will run from 0000Z to 2359Z on June 9, 2007. New this
> >> year:
> >> Certificates will be awarded to the QSO leaders on each continent. A
> >> separate
> >> certificate will be awarded to an FOC member and nonmember station who
> >> reports the highest number of QSOs during the 24 hour period. We still
> >> use the
> >> honor system. No logs required. Just send in your QSO total to be listed.
> >> Nonmembers send total number of QSOs with FOC members (count each QSO
> >> once per
> >> band). Members will report the number of total QSOs/and separate FOC
> >> member QSOs.

> >> Email totals only to _KZ5D@..._ (mailto:KZ5D@...) by June 16,
> >> 2007.
> >> List will be posted on the FOC website.
> >
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

>

--
You Rock! Your E-Mail Should Too! Signup Now at Rock.com and get 250MB of Storage!

http://webmail.rock.com/signup/

# 537. Re: Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 03:14:18 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 535  Message: 537

FOC Code of Conduct:

Item 5;
sub part b. "giving encouragement to newcommers!!!

N6NKN

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Adam Taylor" <n7ya@...> wrote:
>
>
> Now if only we can get some of them to actually answer some of us
non-FOC hams, ill be happy to call them. Usually we just get
ignored...and my fist is pretty decent too.
>
> 73...Adam, N7YA
>
> > ----- Original Message -----
> > From: "cloud runner" <KT5X@...>
> > To: "Steve wd9fjl Keithley" <skeithley1@...>, "Nick KD5QEF Frost"
<nickf@...>
> > Subject: [cw_bugs] Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9
> > Date: Mon, 4 Jun 2007 15:17:48 -0600
> >
> >
> > I will be out-of-town, runnin' Garden of the Gods Ten Miler. If
you have
> > time, work some of the FOC membership!
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Fred - KT5X
> > FOC # 1636
> >
> > >> FOC open invitation to all CW ops
> > >> Join us for 24 hours of CW fun, making QSOs with FOC members
on all 6 HF
> > >> bands (WARC excluded) and VHF. This is an operating event
called The Bill
> > >> Windle
> > >> QSO Party. The primary purpose is to encourage more CW
activity. Stations
> > >> call CQ BW in any portion of the band from 015 to 040. (On
160, please
> > >> stay
> > >> below 025). Nonmembers contact FOC members. Contact each
station once per

> > >> band.
> > >> Exchange RST and name (FOC members will also send their
membership
> > >> number).
> > >> Stations are encouraged to also engage in mini-chats, if they
so desire.
> > >> The
> > >> activity event will run from 0000Z to 2359Z on June 9, 2007.
New this
> > >> year:
> > >> Certificates will be awarded to the QSO leaders on each
continent. A
> > >> separate
> > >> certificate will be awarded to an FOC member and nonmember
station who
> > >> reports the highest number of QSOs during the 24 hour period.
We still
> > >> use the
> > >> honor system. No logs required. Just send in your QSO total
to be listed.
> > >> Nonmembers send total number of QSOs with FOC members (count
each QSO
> > >> once per
> > >> band). Members will report the number of total QSOs/and
separate FOC
> > >> member QSOs.
> > >> Email totals only to _KZ5D@..._ (mailto:KZ5D@...) by June 16,
> > >> 2007.
> > >> List will be posted on the FOC website.
> > >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
>
> >
>
>
> --
> You Rock! Your E-Mail Should Too! Signup Now at Rock.com and get
250MB of Storage!
>
> http://webmail.rock.com/signup/
>

# 538. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 04:04:25 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 535  Message: 538

Thanks for the invitation Fred, Old Bill Windle (SK) (original G8VG) was quite a character! He used to send with a cootie key - probably the only G station that I've ever heard use one.

He was one of my FOC sponsors in the middle 1970s along with Laci Radnay, W1PL, Dave Shafer (SK), W4AX. Marvin Carter, W4ZMQ (SK), Jack West, W6VD, - only two left.

They were all excellent operators.

Laci, W1PL was head of Hungry's Post, Telegraph and Telephone (PTT) in 1953, sending his wife, Olga and two daughters over a river in several wooden boxes to escape the communists. A brave man and an excellent CW operator. I am proud to have him as a friend.

Dave, W4AX was a retired Western Union wirechief. I used to sit by the hours on 3518 kHz and see if he'd ever make an error. He sent on the ham bands like he did at WU, at 27 wpm - all day never changing - perfect CW.

Marvin, W4ZMQ was a USA typing champ when he was in high school - 130 wpm on a manual typewriter. He was also a code champ at 65 wpm for five minutes on a manual typewriter - no errors except at the next wpm! He was a vice president of General Electric, and was known for the quality of making things work. He was also EP2PZ and took the last helicopter from the USA embassey when it got stormed, clutching his precious Ten-Tec Triton IV in his lap.

Jack W6VD from Sacramento is an excellent operator - with a big signal. I don't know much about him but he was generous with his time to all who called and sent great CW. That's a good recommendation in my mind.

G8VG was old Bill, a true character, a gentleman, and one who was the secretary of FOC for years and years. One of the pre-WW2 members who guided and preserved the club and the original concept of quality operators who were gentlemen and led by example in all they did.

There were many that I knew and whose friendships and CW I value to this day.

The rules of FOC have changed over the years - at first no requirement for using more than one band was in the rules of membership, but it was decided that the club was to be active and world-wide and able to communicate on more than one band. One member - a fine CW operator who was rarely on another band was my friend Stew Perry, W1BB. He was a generous inspiration to any who wanted help in getting on 160 meters. it was my pleasure to be at a book presentation for him by

over 375 people - each page a testimonial of thanks - at a restaraunt with a few friends and FOC members. Howie, W1HZ, Norm W1HX, and myself were all there to wish Stew the best. I was also blessed to visit him in the early 1990s at the nursing home when only his wife, Margarette visited him. I brought him a hand key and a code oscillator because those Camel cigarettes he loved so much had caused his larynx to go to cancer and have to be removed, but his palsy was such that he couldn't send. So I brought a McElroy Deluxe bug - the one I used during the SOS I was involved in back in 1980. Slowly he tried to communication. It was pure frustration - he couldn't do it! But then he tried something different - he sent "DE W1BB" and then he sent it over and over and over for about a minute. There were joyful tears welling up in his eyes. I had brought him one last time the gift of CW. He was an early spark radio officer and graduate of MIT.

No where else, have I found such happy memories than with FOC - for a while I grew irritated by what some called snobbishness - but then I looked at my sponsors - and I looked at those whom I called the best of the best - and I realized that THEY didn't do what detractors said.

If all of FOC could be like the men I have mentioned - and there are many more who were members, many who weren't members, and many who were once members, then FOC would be perfect.

Alas I've not found the perfect organization - but I've learned after I left FOC that it was those who embodied the best principles that the club was about truly. These are who I remember, and whose memory I treasure.

73

DR
David Rng, N1EA

Former FOC 1271

On 6/5/07, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:
> I will be out-of-town, runnin' Garden of the Gods Ten Miler. If you have
> time, work some of the FOC membership!
>
> 73,
>
> Fred - KT5X
> FOC # 1636
>
> >> FOC open invitation to all CW ops
> >> Join us for 24 hours of CW fun, making QSOs with FOC members on all 6 HF
> >> bands (WARC excluded) and VHF. This is an operating event called The
> >> Bill
> >> Windle
> >> QSO Party. The primary purpose is to encourage more CW activity.
> >> Stations

> >> call CQ BW in any portion of the band from 015 to 040. (On 160, please
> >> stay
> >> below 025). Nonmembers contact FOC members. Contact each station once
> >> per
> >> band.
> >> Exchange RST and name (FOC members will also send their membership
> >> number).
> >> Stations are encouraged to also engage in mini-chats, if they so desire.
> >> The
> >> activity event will run from 0000Z to 2359Z on June 9, 2007. New this
> >> year:
> >> Certificates will be awarded to the QSO leaders on each continent. A
> >> separate
> >> certificate will be awarded to an FOC member and nonmember station who
> >> reports the highest number of QSOs during the 24 hour period. We still
> >> use the
> >> honor system. No logs required. Just send in your QSO total to be
> >> listed.
> >> Nonmembers send total number of QSOs with FOC members (count each QSO
> >> once per
> >> band). Members will report the number of total QSOs/and separate FOC
> >> member QSOs.
> >> Email totals only to _KZ5D@..._ (mailto:KZ5D@...) by June 16,
> >> 2007.
> >> List will be posted on the FOC website.
> >
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 539. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: [FOC] invitation, Saturday, June 9

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 04:00:33 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 535  Message: 539

In a message dated 6/4/2007 8:01:01 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time,
n7ya@... writes:

Now if only we can get some of them to actually answer some of us non-FOC
hams, ill be happy to call them. Usually we just get ignored...and my fist is
pretty decent too.

73...Adam, N7YA

Yeah Adam. I know what you mean. The last time I answered a FOC "cq" the
reply was "FOC ONLY"
73, Milt k4oso

********** See what's free at http://www.aol.com.

# 540. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: first straight key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 05:56:53 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 526  Message: 540

Hello Bill,

Yahoogroups strips all attachments and html code out of the messages
it archives.

You can only get the pictures if you select "Immediate Mail".

Going to the web or subscribing to the digest won't get you
attachments or pictures. Just words.

Googlegroups however you get the pictures on the web. The pictures
are NOT sent in the digest, nor the summary, but only the direct
immediate mailings.

73

DR

On 6/4/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
> I don't subscribe to anything - I read it on line. That's is why I
> was surprised not to see the key.
>
> Bill W2BLC

# 541. FOC only; not Saturday!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 15:01:32 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 541  Message: 541

> Yeah Adam. I know what you mean. The last time I answered a FOC "cq" the
> reply was "FOC ONLY"
> 73, Milt k4oso

Seems to me I have worked you quite a few times, and I don't recall ever ignoring you, Mike.

The only time you will hear CQ FOC or be ignored when you call a member is during the FOC club reunion activity known as the Marathon. It is "only FOC" in the same sense as the BERU contest is ONLY British Empire stations, and Hunting Lions contest is ONLY for members of the Lions' Club, etc. If you answer a stateside station calling CQ DX you are likely to be ignored, too. the rest of the year you would have no way of knowing that you had just heard/worked a member, and I am sure you have worked many, many members.

Most members, however, will work you in the Marathon, and not think twice about it, that is what I do.

the story of the Marathon may amuse you. the FOC club was a main mover in getting amateur radio back on the air after WW II. Governments were very slow to allow the radio ops back on after the war.

Once permission was granted, the Club then initiated two activities to get the ops back on the air. One was the DX contest which after a few years sponsorship moved over to CQ magazine. it became what is now the CQ WW DX contest.

The other was designed to reinitiate activity among Club members, and that was called the Marathon. I think the year was 1947. They made a fundamental mistake in the on the activity they designed. The Marathon at that time was to continue, day after day, week after week, until such time that one member had managed to contact all the other members. Interesting idea? maybe.

Problem was, once an op had accomplished that task, took about ten days I think, how do you notify the rest of the members that the activity is now over? The Marathon went on for another several weeks before word got around that someone had completed the task and the Marathon was over!

anyway, the Bill Windle QSO Party is done to speak to your "complaint." this is an FOC club activity intended to be open to everyone instead of the Marathon which is an on-the-air club reunion (just like the PVRC Reunion last weekend) open only to members. Non-members who might be interested in being members have opportunity to recognize, meet, and chat with members, and ask questions about membership if they wish.

David or I can answer your questions about membership if you have any. In essence, FOC is an international fraternity of telegraphers. It is a social club of people who share a common interest, nothing less, nothing more. Members come to know one another on a deeper level than one usually does in completely random on the air air encounters. Membership is limited to 500 active ops at any given time, so an interested party may have to wait in

line for a membership number.

Enjoy CW, 73,

Fred - kt5x

# 542. Re: FOC only; not Saturday!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 15:36:53 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 541  Message: 542

Fred,
I assume the post was addressed to me (Milt). I certainly believe what you say about the group.....it just didn't impress me, at the time, as being real friendly. Perhaps I'm being overly sensitive about it, and if so, please file my comments accordingly. Thanks for the interesting story, below. Kind of reminds me of the story of the Japanese soldier on a island in the Pacific, still "fighting" many years after the formal end of the war.
I look forward to hearing you soon.
ZUT 73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Seems to me I have worked you quite a few times, and I don't recall ever ignoring you, Mike.
>
> The only time you will hear CQ FOC or be ignored when you call a member is during the FOC club reunion activity known as the Marathon. It is "only FOC" in the same sense as the BERU contest is ONLY British Empire stations, and Hunting Lions contest is ONLY for members of the Lions' Club, etc. If you answer a stateside station calling CQ DX you are likely to be ignored, too. the rest of the year you would have no way of knowing that you had just heard/worked a member, and I am sure you have worked many, many members.
>
> Most members, however, will work you in the Marathon, and not think twice about it, that is what I do.
>
> the story of the Marathon may amuse you. the FOC club was a main mover in getting amateur radio back on the air after WW II. Governments were very slow to allow the radio ops back on after the war.
>
> Once permission was granted, the Club then initiated two activities to get the ops back on the air. One was the DX contest which after a few years sponsorship moved over to CQ magazine. it became what is now the CQ WW DX contest.
>
> The other was designed to reinitiate activity among Club members, and that was called the Marathon. I think the year was 1947. They made a fundamental mistake in the on the activity they designed. The Marathon at that time was to continue, day after day, week after week, until such time that one member had managed to contact all the other members. Interesting idea? maybe.
>

> Problem was, once an op had accomplished that task, took about ten days I think, how do you notify the rest of the members that the activity is now over? The Marathon went on for another several weeks before word got around that someone had completed the task and the Marathon was over!
>
> anyway, the Bill Windle QSO Party is done to speak to your "complaint." this is an FOC club activity intended to be open to everyone instead of the Marathon which is an on-the-air club reunion (just like the PVRC Reunion last weekend) open only to members. Non-members who might be interested in being members have opportunity to recognize, meet, and chat with members, and ask questions about membership if they wish.
>
> David or I can answer your questions about membership if you have any. In essence, FOC is an international fraternity of telegraphers. It is a social club of people who share a common interest, nothing less, nothing more. Members come to know one another on a deeper level than one usually does in completely random on the air air encounters. Membership is limited to 500 active ops at any given time, so an interested party may have to wait in line for a membership number.
>
> Enjoy CW, 73,
>
> Fred - kt5x
>

# 543. FOC only

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-05 19:25:08 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 543  Message: 543

Here is how (two) members respond:

I agree that sending "FOC only" in response to a call from a non-member during a Marathon is usually in poor taste EXCEPT if you happen to be in a rare or semi-rare country where you would be inundated with non-member calls if you started accepting these calls. I don't know what the answer is never having been in that situation. Lots of other groups have closed events, and I see no reason we can't, also. It's been a tradition for decades! It also seems to me that a good operator would check to find out what the operating activity is and its rules before jumping in. There are plenty sources of this information on the internet and these guys complaining via e-mail certainly have access to the internet! I get a little tired of having to "walk on eggshells" for fear of offending someone. Some folks get offended no matter what you do!

P***

I don't give an "exchange" to non-members who call during the Marathon.
However, if a non-member calls and I don't hear any member calling, I
answer the non-member and give him "599 GA." If he gives me anything
else during his first over such as his name, I'll give him my name too.
I understand that some of the rarer members can't really do that or
they will be swamped and will lose their chance to work members who will
be covered up by the pileup of non-members calling. But for those of us
in more common countries, courtesy should dictate a brief response to
non-member callers in the Marahon. Outside the Marathon and the
BWQP, the use of any FOC identifier is almost never heard and
I assume most members answer all callers courteously.

73,

J***

QSP, Fred - kt5x

# 544. June NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-11 02:03:32 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 544  Message: 544

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday, June 13th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
This month the top two NAQCC highest scorers in the Simple Wire Antennas category will win prizes! First place wins Dave Ingram's wonderful book, "The World of Keys" while the second highest placing NAQCC member will earn a copy of Dave's book, "Keys II: The Emporium". Dave K4TWJ is a 'card carrying" member of the NAQCC and we thank him for his generous donation of one of the books. The other book was procured using funds donated to the NAQCC.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win one of the books; and there's still plenty of time to join before Tuesday night's sprint. To join the NAQCC, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on June 19, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to use the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 545. KT5X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-11 02:22:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham via Kubuntu
Topic: 544  Message: 545

Ah -- Fred, please drop me a line. I'm using Kubuntu and I don't have all my email available right now.

Thanks,
Earl
--
Earl Needham KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

# 546. Photo of 1961 Vibroplex Standard Original bug w/ homebrew tamer.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-12 15:24:09 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 546  Message: 546

Hi,

I have posted my first photo to this group at

http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/view/b973?b=1.

It is a 1961 Original I just got off of www.qth.com. It is from an estate sales of Gene N7YW of Eugene, OR who died of cancer last fall. A ham friend of his facilated the sale, but didn't a lot about bugs although a CW op.

The bug is in decent shape. It does need some cleaning, mostly oxidation on some on the non-chrome parts, but generally in good shape. I bought some of bug cleaner strips off of Ebay from AA4F per K4OSO's suggestion. That is the only cleaning I did.

You will notice one modification, my homebrew tamer. It is inspired by Don's (NN8B) photo of slow down devices. Mine is made of two pieces of aluminum hobby style tubing. The larger diameter piece sides over the entire lever while a smaller diameter piece slides into the larger piece overlapping 1/2". The two weights are as close as possible. That is where the larger diameter piece ends. The bug runs at 16 wpm as shown. The bug runs at 24 wpm without the tamer with the weights near the damper.

I can easily operate a bug at 20 wpm at my skill level, though I can't copy that fast. This configuration has given me the best results so far. I tried more weight near and damper and even hung a 1 oz rectangular weight, from my Champion, off one of the other weights. I even attached flat arm style Extandadot off of one round weights. I discovered that lighter extensions with less weight further out create the best taming action. At 16 wpm with the tamer shown in the photo, the action is very smooth and acts like it was designed top operate there, even when compared to speeds well above 20 wpm.

This bug is very different from my Champion. The action is much smoother. And my Champion seems to be defective in the dash side pivot. It has some noticeable vertical play there and has a binding feeling when sending dashes. My Original doesn't have the play and sends dashes smoothly. Also I don't have the scratchy dots with the Original, except during one my taming experiments with excessive weight closer to the pivot point. Also I have yet to lubricate the Original, while the Champion is throughly lubricated.

I think much of my perception about bugs were based on the Champion. I don't know if my Champion is a lemon or if I would have the same

experience with another Champion or Lightning for that matter. With this Original bug, I think I like bugs now and am converted over to them.

I hope Don NN8B is reading this. I would like to know how you constructed your slow down device. The brass tubing section you used is quite short. I don't know you got it too stay put. My aluminum tubing doesn't fit very snug and I'm looking for a way to secure it. I tried crimping the end a little more a snugger fit. It also looks like Don uses a solid rod beyond the brass tube splice. Don let me know the details. You are my inspiration for this idea.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 547. Re: [cw_bugs] Photo of 1961 Vibroplex Standard Original bug w/ homebrew tamer.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-12 20:47:30 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 546  Message: 547

Hi Steve,
The brass tubing I used for the"union" piece is about 1/8" ID. I found I had to use a small round rattail file
on the ID to get it to fit over the Bugs shaft due to cuting it with a tubing cutter. It is just a snug fit or friction fit. I did have one but that was a loose fit before filing and I took my tubing cutter and gently squeezed the OD so it would be a friction fit on the bugs shaft. Could probably squeeze it with pliers also but the tubing cutter is much more controllable with the threaded cutter head. I have never cut the aluminum tubing so I don't know how soft it would be.

The extension piece is actually nickle plated brass tubing. I have been looking for more of it, but have found out from the hobby stores that they stopped making nickle plated brass tubing about 20 years ago. Show you how long I have been hoarding the stuff, hi. I am now going to search for it online and if I find a source I will post it to the group.

Your correct, it does not take much weight beyond the damper to do a good slowdown job. I am finding its kind of like using training wheels. As I get better I will eventually not need to use it. I've only been using a bug for a year, and am finding I am getting more and more accustomed to the feel and it is more natural feeling to me. I am sure my speed will pick up and I will eventually graduate from using the extension.

On 6/12/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:

> Hi,
>
> I have posted my first photo to this group at
>
> http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/view/b973?b=1.
>
>> You will notice one modification, my homebrew tamer. It is inspired
> by Don's (NN8B) photo of slow down devices. Mine is made of two
> pieces of aluminum hobby style tubing. The larger diameter piece
> sides over the entire lever while a smaller diameter piece slides
> into the larger piece overlapping 1/2". The two weights are as close
> as possible. That is where the larger diameter piece ends. The bug
> runs at 16 wpm as shown. The bug runs at 24 wpm without the tamer
> with the weights near the damper.
>
> I can easily operate a bug at 20 wpm at my skill level, though I
> can't copy that fast. This configuration has given me the best

> results so far. I tried more weight near and damper and even hung a 1
> oz rectangular weight, from my Champion, off one of the other
> weights. I even attached flat arm style Extandadot off of one round
> weights. I discovered that lighter extensions with less weight
> further out create the best taming action. At 16 wpm with the tamer
> shown in the photo, the action is very smooth and acts like it was
> designed top operate there, even when compared to speeds well above
> 20 wpm.

> > I hope Don NN8B is reading this. I would like to know how you
> constructed your slow down device. The brass tubing section you used
> is quite short. I don't know you got it too stay put. My aluminum
> tubing doesn't fit very snug and I'm looking for a way to secure it.
> I tried crimping the end a little more a snugger fit. It also looks
> like Don uses a solid rod beyond the brass tube splice. Don let me
> know the details. You are my inspiration for this idea.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL

--
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36C
Morse Traditionalist;
Proud to Preserve the Code

# 548. Re: Photo of 1961 Vibroplex Standard Original bug w/ homebrew tamer.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 04:57:51 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 546  Message: 548

Hi Don,

I am curious what speed you are sending at with the bug. In my case, the slow down is because my copy speed is slower. My 1961 Original bottoms out at about 24 wpm. I will have to make great strides in my copy speed before removing the tamer, hi hi.

I went to the hardware store again and brought brass home this time. I got a 3/16" piece of brass tubing and a 5/32" inch piece of solid brass rod. The rod telescopes into the tubing. I am using a 1" long piece of tubing and a 2 1/2" piece of solid rod. The rod is little too long but does bring the speed down to 17 wpm with one 0.4 oz weight at the closest point. I will try incrementally shorter pieces until it works the way I want. I have a big burr on the rod where I cut it. Need to find my grinder attachment for the drill and smooth it down.

I suspect I am sending a lot slower with my bug than you are. However I find that your tamer idea produces the smoothest code than the other devices I've tried. This is only my second bug, but it behaves very smoothly. The bug does what I tell it to do for a change.

Next I need to find the best compromise brass lengths and make it more permanent. Then I will upload another photo.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 549. slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 13:55:17 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 549  Message: 549

While I find the vari-speed (much) better for slowing bugs down than the bug tamer approach, here is a third way to do it.

See if you can find round brass stock of much greater diameter than the usual weights, and center drill a hole for sliding it onto the pendulum. One larger diameter weight will slow the bug WAY down, much more effectively than additional weights which must be located in closer proximity to the mainspring. Not only is the weight being concentrated further from the mainspring, but also as diameter increases, the volume/mass of the weight increases by three times the square. A single weight of the same width and twice the diamter of the norm is way more than two weights, WAY more.

73,

Fred - kt5x

# 550. Field Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 14:00:17 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 550  Message: 550
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Sure hope to work all of you CW ops on Field Day, whether "out" there, or from home.

We will be operating QRP with a K2, using excellent antennas on top of a ridge at 9,000 ft elevation. It will be our 8th year from this location near Chama, New Mexico. A short walk down the hill and we are at a privately stocked trout lake to fish and swim.

Last year even with poor conditions we managed over 800 QSO's and finished in first place in the class B (two man team) category.

We are CW only, and we use a bug after midnight just for the Halibut.

Please work us! W5YA

72,

Fred - KT5X
Steve - WD9FJL

# 551. Re: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 14:55:58 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 551  Message: 551
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 552. Re: Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 15:32:12 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 551  Message: 552

Great stuff Grover.

Thanks,

N6NKN

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> Fellow Buggies,
>
> See the following for how one professional op at KPH regulated his bug
> speed:
>
> http://www.radiomarine.org/historic-5.html
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 553. Re: Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 15:42:59 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 551  Message: 553

Hi Grover,
Thanks for the nice reference. I agree wholeheartedly with your choice of the word "regulated" rather than "slowed". LR's clamp looks very secure, insuring the same speed every time without slippage or screws coming loose. I also notice the clamp is placed well "astern", almost to the dot spring assembly. Probably wasn't real slow :-). I'm in the same camp of opinion as Fred (kt5x) in that the Vari Speed is a wonderful little device for regulating speed.
ZUT 73,
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> Fellow Buggies,
>
> See the following for how one professional op at KPH regulated his bug
> speed:
>
> http://www.radiomarine.org/historic-5.html
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 554. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 16:13:11 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 551  Message: 554
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 555. Re: Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 16:56:51 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 551  Message: 555

Grover,
Your "experiment" results, while they should be interesting, I doubt you can duplicate LR's conditions with any degree of certainty without doing some scaling to make sure you get a clamp of a similar size, composition, etc. One other factor to consider is, how fast was his bug to start with? My bugs vary considerably, within model, from one to another in their slowest/fastest speeds.

Again, I think the clamp was, most likely, more for reliablity in speed regulation than for slowing. I understand that some ops even soldered their weight in place to ensure reliability.

Opinions differ but, I think 20 - 25 wpm is fast enough for traffic handling. To me, real slow means in the 13-15 wpm range....the range some of the guys here and on SKCC are attaining with their bugs....me too, if the need arises.

To a great degree, conditions dictate speed. That might be why SOS distress signals were sent in the teens (WPM)...I think either 14 or 16 wpm, --- to ensure that regardless of conditions or operator expertise, they could be copied.

This is one of the reasons I love cw....there is so much to talk about, ... and such a rich history to draw on.
ZUT,
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...> wrote:
>
> Milt,
>
> You will notice, however, that the clamp is a large one. I'm going to pick
> one up today and see exactly what kind of speed was set, as best I can judge
> from the photo, since I have the same Vibroplex. I do know that the phrase
> "twenty is fast enough" was common in the trade. I'll bet that even with the
> weight "far astern" it was still heavy enough to keep that bug below 25wpm.
>
> Stay tuned for the news at five.
>
> Grover K7TP

>
> ZUT
>
> USCG 1965-69
>
> On 6/14/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> >
> > Hi Grover,
> > Thanks for the nice reference. I agree wholeheartedly with your
choice
> > of the word "regulated" rather than "slowed". LR's clamp looks
very
> > secure, insuring the same speed every time without slippage or
screws
> > coming loose. I also notice the clamp is placed well "astern",
almost
> > to the dot spring assembly. Probably wasn't real slow :-). I'm in
the
> > same camp of opinion as Fred (kt5x) in that the Vari Speed is a
> > wonderful little device for regulating speed.
> > ZUT 73,
> > Milt k4oso
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%
40yahoogroups.com>, "Grover
> > Cleveland" <clevelandg@>
> > wrote:
> > >
> > > Fellow Buggies,
> > >
> > > See the following for how one professional op at KPH regulated
his bug
> > > speed:
> > >
> > > http://www.radiomarine.org/historic-5.html
> > >
> > > --
> > > Grover Cleveland K7TP
> > >
> > > "Morse - everything else is QRM"
> > >
> >
> >
> >
>
>
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>

> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 556. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-14 17:05:44 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 549  Message: 556

Fred's idea is a good one but is not new.

For those of you who don't want to do all the metal work and would like to choose from several variations on the theme Fred describes, check out:

http://www.extendadot.com

These bug tamers are cheap and are extraordinarily effective. I have 2 and they are wonderful. My tamed bugs can go as slow as 13 wpm.

73,

Frank KB4T

At 07:55 AM 6/14/2007 -0600, you wrote:

>While I find the vari-speed (much) better for slowing bugs down than the
>bug tamer approach, here is a third way to do it.
>
>See if you can find round brass stock of much greater diameter than the
>usual weights, and center drill a hole for sliding it onto the
>pendulum. One larger diameter weight will slow the bug WAY down, much
>more effectively than additional weights which must be located in closer
>proximity to the mainspring. Not only is the weight being concentrated
>further from the mainspring, but also as diameter increases, the
>volume/mass of the weight increases by three times the square. A single
>weight of the same width and twice the diamter of the norm is way more
>than two weights, WAY more.
>
>73,
>
>Fred - kt5x

# 557. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-15 16:17:58 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 549  Message: 557
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 558. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Another way to slow your bug down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-15 18:55:29 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 551  Message: 558
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 559. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 05:09:06 UTC
From: Frank N. Haas
Topic: 549  Message: 559

David et al:

The way I read it, Fred's idea made me think of the Extendadot. Sorry if I mis-interpreted. I still believe that extending the length of the pendulum is more better than weighing it down with lots of extra weight.

What I like best about the Extendadot is how effective it is at slowing the speed of the bug without having a great deal of weight added to the pendulum.

Comparing the Vari-speed and Extendadot on the same key convinced me that the Extendadot was a more effective device without adding a noticeable amount of weight to the pendulum. The added weight of any tamer can be felt at the finger pieces. The Extendadot allows the speed to be set slower with less weight than any other tamer I have tried.

I know some hams will balk at the prospect of spending $18 for a neat add-on like the Extendadot. I'm not crafty or handy. Buying the Extendadot allowed me to enjoy the benefits without the trouble of having to machine something myself. Thus I was able to slow down my bug without anyone getting hurt and no machines being damaged in the process. I call that a win-win.

73,

Frank KB4T

At 12:17 AM 6/16/2007 +0800, you wrote:

>Frank,
>
>Fred's idea is not at all like the extendadot.
>
>Fred's idea is to have a weight made with double the diameter of
>the "standard" weight and the same width as the "standard" weight. He
>says it has "way more" weight than a two standard weights.
>
>"Fat Boy" weights such as his allow speed variation - I know someone who
>has put two large Vibroplex weights on a bug - it sends very slow - but
>you can't adjust the speed because the weights take up ALL of the sliding
>room on the vibrating rod.
>
>Blimpo - the gold standard of bug weights. Available in nickle, chrome or
>with cheese sauce. (????!!!!!????) Not suitable for QRQ use or in homes
>with projectile prone pigeons.
>
>73
>dr

>
>
>On 6/15/07, Frank N. Haas <<mailto:kb4t@...>kb4t@...> wrote:
>>
>>Fred's idea is a good one but is not new.
>>
>>For those of you who don't want to do all the metal work and would like
>>to choose from several variations on the theme Fred describes, check out:
>>
>><http://www.extendadot.com/>http://www.extendadot.com
>>
>>These bug tamers are cheap and are extraordinarily effective. I have 2
>>and they are wonderful. My tamed bugs can go as slow as 13 wpm.
>>
>>73,
>>
>>Frank KB4T
>>
>>
>>
>>At 07:55 AM 6/14/2007 -0600, you wrote:
>>
>>>While I find the vari-speed (much) better for slowing bugs down than the
>>>bug tamer approach, here is a third way to do it.
>>>
>>>See if you can find round brass stock of much greater diameter than the
>>>usual weights, and center drill a hole for sliding it onto the
>>>pendulum. One larger diameter weight will slow the bug WAY down, much
>>>more effectively than additional weights which must be located in closer
>>>proximity to the mainspring. Not only is the weight being concentrated
>>>further from the mainspring, but also as diameter increases, the
>>>volume/mass of the weight increases by three times the square. A single
>>>weight of the same width and twice the diamter of the norm is way more
>>>than two weights, WAY more.
>>>
>>>73,
>>>
>>>Fred - kt5x

# 560. Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 16:26:55 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 549  Message: 560

Gentlemen,

Sorry about opening the can of worms again. A bug is out of the question for me if it isn't slowed down. I simply am not fast enough on my overall code speed, especially on my copy speed, without one.

So far I have evaluated the Extendadot on my 1961 Original. I am inclined to prefer the NN8B style solution in the photos section. I tried some designs. One reduced the speed a bit too much and left a gap in speed coverage between 18 and 24 wpm. It also made the bug feel too heavy. I started with two piece of aluminum tubing. Then I tried one piece of brass and a smaller diameter brass rod. That the one that made the feel too heavy. I plan to try brass tubing for the smaller piece in order to reduce the weight.

The NN8B method has provided the best feel for me. I am running at about 16 wpm dit speed. Yes I could easily send at 20 wpm, but can't copy that fast.

The axiom I've discovered for my needs is less weight and more length. On the Extendadot, this is not quite as true. It seems to help putting more weight on the closer end. I think that is mainly because the Extendadot uses heavier tubing than my prototypes.

To be fair I will be test driving the Vari-Speed later today. I have the flat arm version. My friend has the round arm version.

My above axiom only applies to my 1961 Original at the speeds mentioned above, the mid to high teens wpm.

I tried tying a rectangular 1 oz to one of the round weights with a long 8-32 machine screw. This kept all of the added weight inside the damper with no lever extensions. This mimics the larger diameter weight mentioned eariler. The results were not pretty. The bug was hard to handle, very heavy to the touch. The speed reduction was poor. Staying with the standard set of weights and moving them beyond the damper has produced the best results. I doubt the larger diameter weights would work on my 1961 Original. Perhaps it will on other bugs.

That said, I am using the Extendadot, simply because my prototypes are not permanently fastened down. I suspect I will end up using the NN8B style tamer once the prototypes are made more rugged.

I have to agree with Frank: moving the existing weight further out is the best IMHO.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 561. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 20:05:03 UTC
From: Frank Haas
Topic: 549  Message: 561

Steve:

When it comes to keys and bugs, one size definitely does not fit all.

Since "feel" is such a big part of the solution, the right answer is different for each of us. Luckily we are blessed with many possible options to finding our perfect setup.

Many of us have enjoyed such remarkable success in achieving our best answer that we get passionate when we speak about it. We are just so anxious to share the joy!

Each operator must be willing to pursue the quest for as long as it takes to find the one's best combination. Many folks new to the quest don't know about all the options. The tips presented here can be a valuable resource. Despite our enthusiasm we merely seek to be helpful. Essentially we hope to shorten the journey for those to whom the path seems lengthy.

Better the worms be loosed than deny those deserving knowledge they might use.

73,

Frank KB4T
Worm Releaser

At 12:26 6/16/2007, you wrote:

>Gentlemen,
>
>Sorry about opening the can of worms again. A bug is out of the
>question for me if it isn't slowed down. I simply am not fast enough
>on my overall code speed, especially on my copy speed, without one.
>
>< The Big Snip >

# 562. Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 23:00:16 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 549  Message: 562

Frank,

Yes you are right. My poor experience with a particular method doesn't mean it won't work for everyone. I had lunch with another local bug user. We brought our bugs to the diner and played with different bugs. I was suprised that he thought my bug was heavy to the touch, although I thought it was feather weight. It goes to show that everyone is unique.

In that spirit, I would like that thank everyone on this list for their different viewpoints. It was not right for me to start taking sides on the issue. I am a relatively new CW operator, although a seasoned ham, and still have a lot to learn about CW. I look foward to helping keep CW alive on the HF bands.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 563. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 23:47:53 UTC
From: Frank Haas
Topic: 549  Message: 563

Steve:

As your practical demo in the diner has clearly shown, everyone's idea of "too much" or "too little" weight at the finger pieces is different. The necessity of taking the journey of discovery is justified yet again. The voyage to the island of CW keying nirvana is different for everyone. Only those with patience and a fiery desire will ever find their personal holy grail.

You seem committed to success. By keeping an open mind and trying everything that seems sensible and comfortable to you, your destination will be reached directly and hopefully soon. Then you can join those of us who enthusiastically beat our chests promoting our chosen best solution.

The key (pardon me, please) is to be persistent with an open mind. Analyze thoroughly each tested option. Be relentless in the pursuit of your version of perfection. It's out there.

Keep in mind: Just like everyone else, you are unique.

73,

Frank KB4T

At 19:00 6/16/2007, you wrote:

>Frank,
>
>Yes you are right. My poor experience with a particular method doesn't
>mean it won't work for everyone. I had lunch with another local bug
>user. We brought our bugs to the diner and played with different bugs.
>I was suprised that he thought my bug was heavy to the touch, although
>I thought it was feather weight. It goes to show that everyone is
>unique.
>
>In that spirit, I would like that thank everyone on this list for their
>different viewpoints. It was not right for me to start taking sides on
>the issue. I am a relatively new CW operator, although a seasoned ham,
>and still have a lot to learn about CW. I look foward to helping keep
>CW alive on the HF bands.
>
>73,
>
>Steve N6VL

# 564. Father's Day RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-16 20:56:30 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 564  Message: 564

Are your darling wife and dear kids having trouble deciding what to give you for Father's Day? Tell them that you'd like a 2 hour block of "quiet time" on Sunday night so that you can enjoy the June edition of "Run For The Bacon"!

This Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is June 24th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 565. slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-18 04:14:45 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 549  Message: 565

Actually, the style of weight to which I am referring was used on old MacElroy bugs. The width was typically about 1/4 inch, but the diameter was perhaps 5/4 inch. It is more the big diameter which puts the weight far out on the pendulum, than the total weight, that does the trick.

73, Fred

P.S. Been away for a few days. Ran a 14-er in Colorado. Go here if curious.

http://www.racingunderground.com/mtevans/index.html

Frank,

Fred's idea is not at all like the extendadot.

Fred's idea is to have a weight made with double the diameter of the "standard" weight and the same width as the "standard" weight. He says it has "way more" weight than a two standard weights.

"Fat Boy" weights such as his allow speed variation - I know someone who has put two large Vibroplex weights on a bug - it sends very slow - but you can't adjust the speed because the weights take up ALL of the sliding room on the vibrating rod.

Blimpo - the gold standard of bug weights. Available in nickle, chrome or with cheese sauce. (????!!!!!????) Not suitable for QRQ use or in homes with projectile prone pigeons.

73
dr

# 566. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-18 06:01:29 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 549  Message: 566
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 567. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-18 13:54:14 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 549  Message: 567
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 568. Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-18 16:32:11 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 549  Message: 568

DR and Fred,

I just measured a weight from my "Deluxe Model Mac Key" and it's 7/8" in diameter by 1/4" deep. McElroy used the same weight on my "Telegraph Apparatus Co." model.

73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: David Ring<mailto:n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 17, 2007 11:01 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] slowing bugs

Yes, that was exactly what came to mind, Fred. The large diameter McElroy weights which allow the weight to be nearer the balance point.

I don't have one to measure but they were significantly larger in diameter and thinner in thickness than the Vibroplex weights.

The big diameter centers the weight at a certain spot. I was speaking in a different perspective than you were - I was concentrating on the weight at the close to the pivot perspective, but what you're saying is also correct.

McElroy weights permit a greater range of adjustment. They concentrate the weight at a point on the vibrator and move the center of gravity much quicker than the Vibroplex weights.

You and I will get the wording right eventually. Hope you had a nice run.

73

DR

On 6/18/07, cloud runner <KT5X@...<mailto:KT5X@...>> wrote:
Actually, the style of weight to which I am referring was used on old MacElroy bugs. The width was typically about 1/4 inch, but the diameter was perhaps 5/4 inch. It is more the big diameter which puts the weight far out on the pendulum, than the total weight, that does the trick.

73, Fred

# 569. Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 02:24:57 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 549  Message: 569

Hi Grover,
Have you conducted any speed tests with your clamp yet? If so, what kind of results did you yield? Also, will there a picture(s)?
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...> wrote:
>
> Buggies All,
>
> I bought a large cable clamp of a size I believe is close to the one used on
> the bug at KPH (http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-OP-4.jpg). The
> weight of the cable clamp is 1.0 oz. while the weight of the standard
> Vibroplex weight is 0.4 oz. That's a significant difference.
>
> Grover K7TP
>
> On 6/17/07, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
> >
> > Yes, that was exactly what came to mind, Fred. The large diameter
> > McElroy weights which allow the weight to be nearer the balance point.
> >
> > I don't have one to measure but they were significantly larger in diameter
> > and thinner in thickness than the Vibroplex weights.
> >
> > The big diameter centers the weight at a certain spot. I was speaking in
> > a different perspective than you were - I was concentrating on the weight at
> > the close to the pivot perspective, but what you're saying is also correct.
> >
>
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 570. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 13:42:48 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 549  Message: 570
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 571. Xograph Bug - Photos added to K7TP Collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 14:28:52 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 571  Message: 571

Here is a rare one - an Xograph from the 1920's. It is a sweet little thing, about the size of a Zephyr but more delicate. It has a nice firm action.

Made by Rolph Brown of the Canadian National Telegraph company in Toronto. This one is number 55.

If anyone has more information on these I would love to know about them.

Grover K7TP

# 572. Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 15:01:14 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 549  Message: 572

Hi Grover,
Maybe I'm the only one to whom its not obvious:-) But, what did you
find out about speed, using the clamp?
Nice pic....and appears to be historically correct.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> Buggies All,
>
> I attached a cable clamp to a standard Vibroplex to conduct tests
on the
> weight's effectiveness. I concluded nothing in terms of speed that
isn't
> obvious.
>
> However, the cable clamp is 1.0 oz. and the standard Vibroplex
weight
> is 0.4oz. It would have the advantage, in line with the current
> discussion, of
> concentrating the weight in one spot on the pendulum.
>
> A photo is attached.
>
> Grover K7TP
>
> On 6/18/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> >
> > Hi Grover,
> > Have you conducted any speed tests with your clamp yet? If so,
what
> > kind of results did you yield? Also, will there a picture(s)?
> > Milt k4oso
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <cw_bugs%
40yahoogroups.com>, "Grover
> > Cleveland" <clevelandg@>
> > wrote:
> > >
> > > Buggies All,
> > >
> > > I bought a large cable clamp of a size I believe is close to the
> > one used on
> > > the bug at KPH (http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-OP-

> > 4.jpg). The
> > > weight of the cable clamp is 1.0 oz. while the weight of the
> > standard
> > > Vibroplex weight is 0.4 oz. That's a significant difference.
> > >
> >
> >
> >
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 573. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 15:42:37 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 549  Message: 573
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 574. Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 16:08:05 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 549  Message: 574

I noticed something else on Les Burger's bug
(http://www.radiomarine.org/historic-5.html)
that I had not noticed before. It would seem as though there is still
a standard Vibroplex weight at the end of pendulum, that is in
addition to the cable clamp. I'll purchase a larger cable clamp (I
think that the one I bought is a size too small) and add a standard
weight at the end of the arm as see what the result is.

Grover K7TP

'sperimentin' with bugs

# 575. Slowing the bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 18:24:05 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 575  Message: 575

Hi, Buggies -

Been lurking for a long time, just listening to the "scratchy dots" and "bug weight" threads, and my 2 cents worth has come to the surface.

Isaac Newton showed long ago that what matters about the effective mass of an object (as far as distant measurements go) is the center of mass. This is why the law of universal gravitation treats the center-to-center distance between two massive bodies to calculate the gravitational attraction. From a more earthly point of view (but just as important to a bug enthusiast) is the fact that for any cylindrical weight, whether it is long and thin or short and fat, the center of its mass will be on its long axis and equidistant from either end. This is the distance from the pendulum spring that matters.

The advantage of a short and fat weight is that it allows for a greater range of speed adjustment because it takes up less space on the pendulum and can be moved further back and forth. The advantage of a long thin weight is that it is less likely to run into stuff (like terminal posts, damper supports, etc.) as the pendulum swings. And a long thin weight with a setscrew near one end can be extended out beyond the actual end of the pendulum to provide greater slowing. When I have finished my current round of bug-building, I intend to work further on a new way to slow a bug - by effectively (but not permanently) reducing the strength of the pendulum spring. I will report back if I am successful (but probably not if it doesn't work!)

I have enjoyed the bits of bug lore that these posts have provided, and I have done a lot of book marking of interesting sites. Thanks to all.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

ps. Please pardon me if this is a double post - I have been having difficulties getting stuff posted.

# 576. Re: [cw_bugs] Cable Clamp - Conclusion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 18:34:46 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 576  Message: 576
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 577. Re: [cw_bugs] Slowing the bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 22:31:30 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 575  Message: 577

You are as right as cool rain and a glass of ice tea on a 100 degree day Richard.

I think a good solution is a McElroy diameter weight on a Vibroplex as it allows the center of gravity to move closer (given the mass of the weight) than a standard Vibroplex weight and also it alows the center gravity to be moved further away from the pivot point.

Now - as you mention the greater diameter might cause problems with hitting the damper or other hardware.

Keep up the good work.

73

DR

On 6/19/07, richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
> Hi, Buggies -
>
> Been lurking for a long time, just listening to the "scratchy
> dots" and "bug weight" threads, and my 2 cents worth has come to the
> surface.

# 578. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-19 14:18:45 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 549  Message: 578

Hi, Buggies -

???? Been lurking for a long time, just listening to the "scratchy dots" and "bug weight" threads, and my 2 cents worth has come to the surface.

? ?? Isaac Newton showed long ago that what matters about the effective mass of an object (as far as distant measurements go) is the center of mass.? This is why the law of universal gravitation treats the center-to-center distance between two massive bodies to calculate the gravitational attraction.? From a more earthly point of view (but just as important to a bug enthusiast) is the fact that for any cylindrical weight, whether it is long and thin or short and fat, the center of its mass will be on its long axis and equidistant from either end.? This is the distance from the pendulum spring that matters.?

??? The advantage of a short and fat weight is that it allows for a greater range of speed adjustment because it takes up less space on the pendulum and can be moved further back and forth.? The advantage of a long thin weight is that it is less likely to run into stuff (like terminal posts, damper supports, etc.) as the pendulum swings.? And a long thin weight with a setscrew near one end can be extended out beyond the actual end of the pendulum to provide greater slowing.
???? When I have finished my current round of bug-building, I intend to work further on a new way to slow a bug - by effectively (but not permanently) reducing the strength of the pendulum spring.? I will report back if I am successful (but probably not if it doesn't work!)

???? I have enjoyed the bits of bug lore that these posts have provided, and I have done a lot of book marking of interesting sites.? Thanks to all.

???? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: Grover Cleveland
Sent: Jun 19, 2007 9:42 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs--CABLE CLAMP

Buggies All,

I attached a cable clamp to a standard Vibroplex to conduct tests on the weight's effectiveness. I concluded nothing in terms of speed that isn't obvious.

However, the cable clamp is 1.0 oz. and the standard Vibroplex weight is 0.4 oz. It would have the advantage, in line with the current discussion, of concentrating the weight in one spot on the pendulum.

A photo is attached.

Grover K7TP

On 6/18/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:

Hi Grover,
Have you conducted any speed tests with your clamp yet? If so, what kind of results did you yield? Also, will there a picture(s)?
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" ..>
wrote:
>
> Buggies All,
>
> I bought a large cable clamp of a size I believe is close to the one used on
> the bug at KPH (http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-OP-4.jpg). The
> weight of the cable clamp is 1.0 oz. while the weight of the standard
> Vibroplex weight is 0.4 oz. That's a significant difference.
>

--
Grover Cleveland K7TP

"Morse - everything else is QRM"

# 579. Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-20 15:00:13 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 549  Message: 579

I earlier wrote off the McElroy idea. I had attached a flat style 1 oz weight to a .4 oz round weight on my Original using a long nylon screw. I still had another .4 oz a little closer. The total weight was 1.8 oz, from the three weights, was not enough to slow it down. And the action felt shaky.

On further thought, that really isn't the equilavent of a McElroy style weight. The extra weight was concentrated above the lever and there was still two .4 oz weights present. I can't really claim I tried the McElroy method.

I also found these adjustments are quite complex. There are many ways to add the weight to slow down a bug. And the same method won't behave the same way on a different bug.

I've been playing with my Original and found there are so many interactions. It is too complex for a hobbyist like me to come up with hard rules.

I'd like to see a photo of the McElroy bug. The idea is intriguing.

I also want to give the cable clamp a try. My Original has a 5/32" diameter rod. I guess that is the size of cable clamp to look for. I wonder if a pair of wing nuts would work for quick adjustments. They might be too close and hit each other. Also a chrome job might be neat on a cable clamp.

That said, I am sorry about writing off the McElroy weight earlier in this thread. I am a newbie at bug and was a little impatient at the results I was getting.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 580. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-20 16:30:17 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 549  Message: 580

Steve, A very nice photo of a McElroy bug like mine can be seen at
http://www.w1tp.com/7627.jpg<http://www.w1tp.com/7627.jpg> .
73,
Troy, W6HV
----- Original Message -----
From: n6vl<mailto:n6vl@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2007 8:00 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: slowing bugs
----------- I'd like to see a photo of the McElroy bug. The idea is intriguing.
---
73,

Steve N6VL

# 581. QRP Summer Foxhunts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-20 23:18:07 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 581  Message: 581

The 2007 Summer 20 Meter Foxhunt Season is fast approaching!

And we are in need of QRPers to volunteer to for Foz duty!

This summer, the hunts will run on Thursday evenings beginning on July 5th and will run until September 9th. This will provide us with 10 weeks of Summer QRP Foxhunt fun and excitement. There will be, as usual, two hunts per Thursday evening over the ten week period. A bare minimum of 10 volunteers is needed, however, the more the merrier; and we willl consider all who offer to volunteer. Please consider volunteering ESPECIALLY if you've never tried before! You are guaranteed to have the time of your life!

To fill out an application and for all the particulars, please visit: http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/

Tally Ho! Let the hunts begin!

QRP Foxhunt Committee

# 582. Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 02:49:03 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 582  Message: 582

I have watched to the Quicktime video from Vibprolex at http://www.vibroplex.com/1946_deluxe_n8ux.mov. The video shows sending with a definite working of the fingers and not the rolling of the palm on the table surface. While the fleshing part of the palm is on the table, the stroking of the paddle seems to be all fingers.

I have read a lot about how to sending with a bug, but no visual tutorials except for the above video.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 583. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 03:47:30 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 582  Message: 583

Mitch W4OA of Vibroplex wanted to do a video of adjusting and operating a Vibroplex, and Rich contributed that video.

You can send that way - but it is tiring and you won't last very long nor will you be able to send fast that way.

The finger method is much more suitable for paddles (manipulator) where there is no large amount of pressure on the key.

Even with a sideswiper which has less pressure than a semi-automatic key, the side to side rocking is needed.

The short muscles of the fingers fatigue very quickly as those of you who learned to write with the arm and not the fingers will have learned. The finger writers get cramps very quickly, same so the finger poken bug operators.

73

DR

David N1EA

On 6/21/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> I have watched to the Quicktime video from Vibprolex at
> http://www.vibroplex.com/1946_deluxe_n8ux.mov. The video shows sending
> with a definite working of the fingers and not the rolling of the palm
> on the table surface. While the fleshing part of the palm is on the
> table, the stroking of the paddle seems to be all fingers.
>
> I have read a lot about how to sending with a bug, but no visual
> tutorials except for the above video.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 584. Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 04:14:10 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 582  Message: 584

David,
In my case, at least, you are absolutely right. I used to read, with some amusement, your comments on bug sending re: rolling the arm and NOT moving the fingers. I was amused because....I was doing exactly what you were advising against!!!
HOWEVER, once I reached 26 - 27 WPM, I found I had to lock the wrist and fingers and roll on the meaty side of my hand. Working the fingers is a luxury I could only enjoy at slow speeds.....at close to 30 WPM, for me, its "lock it or lose it" :-)
ZUT 73,
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> You can send that way - but it is tiring and you won't last very long
> nor will you be able to send fast that way.
>
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David N1EA

# 585. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 07:06:52 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 582  Message: 585

It seems from keeping the wrist down with a hand key, to using the arm to send with a bug, to using the arm to write with, people just don't get it.

The only thing you have to use the fingers for is the keyboard!

Don't get me wrong - you will THINK that you can send better, faster, more precisely with your fingers, but you will eventually find that you are wrong and that if you do it the right way from the beginning it will be SO much easier.

I remember some people who taught morse thought that posture and how you used a key was so important they'd spend an entire class on it and then review it and inspect people often.

Many people just don't have a sense of what they're doing - but many more just think that if it seems easier AT FIRST it is always going to be easier.

THAT IS THE ERROR.

It feels easier at first to use the fingers, but it quickly becomes painful and the rhythm is not consistant.

It is easier, much easier, and faster (in time with practice) with the arm.

Short finger muscles fatigue fast - long muscles in arm last long time.

73

DR
On 6/22/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> David,
> In my case, at least, you are absolutely right. I used to read, with
> some amusement, your comments on bug sending re: rolling the arm and
> NOT moving the fingers. I was amused because....I was doing exactly
> what you were advising against!!!
> HOWEVER, once I reached 26 - 27 WPM, I found I had to lock the wrist
> and fingers and roll on the meaty side of my hand. Working the
> fingers is a luxury I could only enjoy at slow speeds.....at close to
> 30 WPM, for me, its "lock it or lose it" :-)
> ZUT 73,
> Milt k4oso
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> > You can send that way - but it is tiring and you won't last very

> long
> > nor will you be able to send fast that way.
> >
> >
> > 73
> >
> > DR
> >
> > David N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 586. Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 15:16:56 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 582  Message: 586

I find even my lower speeds, under 20 wpm, too much finger action gets me in trouble, especially when transitioning from dits to dahs. I can't fully use the rocking wrist motion at lower speeds, simply because of the wider contact gaps. I get the impression the actual amount of wrist rotation is rather small in terms of real movement. I think it is meant for narrower contact spacings.

That said, I have found a way to hold the fingers rigid. It is hard to describe in words, but I put more the arm into sending, and resist using the fingers. I can see how rocking the wrist would work at higher speeds where to amount of travel is smaller.

Also my noisy dits went away with a different bug. My Original is so much better than my Champion. As they say, your mileage may vary. Each bug is unique. Anyway, I no longer fight to have good dits and now can focus on sending rhythm. My Champion bug is retired.

I am still learning!

73,

Steve N6VL

# 587. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-22 15:44:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 582  Message: 587

I wish someone around here had a high-resolution video camera!

The wrist roll isn't a "flick" - it is a genuine roll - like turning a door knob.- about 50 degrees of rotation - using a clock example - from 12 to 10. The "dot roll" never feels the same size - but it is just about. But you notice how much more iinprecise the "dot roll" is than the "dash roll" - or at least I do.

73

DR
David Ring, N1EA

On 6/22/07, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> I find even my lower speeds, under 20 wpm, too much finger action
> gets me in trouble, especially when transitioning from dits to dahs.
> I can't fully use the rocking wrist motion at lower speeds, simply
> because of the wider contact gaps. I get the impression the actual
> amount of wrist rotation is rather small in terms of real movement. I
> think it is meant for narrower contact spacings.
>
> That said, I have found a way to hold the fingers rigid. It is hard
> to describe in words, but I put more the arm into sending, and resist
> using the fingers. I can see how rocking the wrist would work at
> higher speeds where to amount of travel is smaller.
>
> Also my noisy dits went away with a different bug. My Original is so
> much better than my Champion. As they say, your mileage may vary.
> Each bug is unique. Anyway, I no longer fight to have good dits and
> now can focus on sending rhythm. My Champion bug is retired.
>
> I am still learning!
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

>

# 588. Morse Code Demo - not CW

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-24 16:20:32 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 588  Message: 588

For you buggies out there:

http://youtube.com/watch?v=K_yUv1PFLqQ

73

DR

# 589. Date your Vibroplex -- Addendum

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-25 04:48:35 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 589  Message: 589

Hello to the group:

This is of interest to those of you with newer Vibroplex keys.

I don't know when this was added, but I just noticed an addedum in the "Date your Vibroplex" page...

http://www.vibroplex.com/date_your_vibroplex.html

...which now features serial numbers from after the year 1995. Scroll almost 2/3 down the page.

73,

Jack - N0NV

# 590. Re: [cw_bugs] Field Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-25 14:27:48 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 550  Message: 590

At 08:00 AM 6/14/2007, cloud runner wrote:

>Sure hope to work all of you CW ops on Field Day, whether "out"
>there, or from home.
>
>We will be operating QRP with a K2, using excellent antennas on top
>of a ridge at 9,000 ft elevation. It will be our 8th year from this
>location near Chama, New Mexico. A short walk down the hill and we
>are at a privately stocked trout lake to fish and swim.

I looked HARD and didn't find y'all. I was able to operate
on 40 CW for some of Saturday and nearly all of Saturday night after
about 0200Z. (Had another guy decide HE was going to operate 40
phone from the other room, and just totally knocked me off the
air. After he left about 0200, I was able to get back on.) Even
with such conditions, I managed about 98 contacts. At 0930Z I was so
tired the CW all turned to much and I staggered off to find a
couch. Back up and on the air at 1300Z and then shut down at about
1400Z when the other guy wanted 40 phone again.

This was MUCH better than last year -- for FD 2006, I only
managed 14 contacts, but they were the first 14 contacts I had made
on CW since 1982!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

# 591. Field Day W5YA

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-26 13:22:54 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 591  Message: 591

Sorry we didn't manage to QSO, Earl. the distance is pretty tough. We did work West Texas section, but no one nearer than that. Congratulations on your score improvement. You must be making good strides with your CW.

We run QRP (5 watts) because of the multiplier, and of course essentially all CW.

Conditions were spooky. there was a solar storm thursday that caused high absorption. signals slowly came back across the weekend, getting better by the hour. Short skip was the order of the day, CA stations reported they couldn't work the east coast, but from here we could work both coasts. 15 meters had no skip north of a certain line across the west. We were just barely under that line, and especially Sunday morning managed a quick one hundred contacts in ninety minutes there.

We made 985 QSO's which exceeds the all time previous high ever made by anyone in the 1B2 QRP category. We won't know until December whether this holds up to win this year and become the new record. Now we regret taking half an hour off for dinner together as we might have gone over 1,000 QSO's had one of us stayed on.

We also had good luck trout fishing, saw wild turkey almost in the campsite, had very good weather, and our hostess on the ranch brought some bullwhips and spent a little time teaching me to crack them. this probably was the cause of my partner producing more contacts than he ever had in the past ;-)

73, Fred - kt5x

op of W5YA

# 592. Re: Field Day W5YA

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-26 13:33:30 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 591  Message: 592

Ham Radio, Trout and Bullwhips..now thats what I call a field day!!!

N6NKN

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Sorry we didn't manage to QSO, Earl. the distance is pretty
tough. We did work West Texas section, but no one nearer than that.
Congratulations on your score improvement. You must be making good
strides with your CW.
>
> We run QRP (5 watts) because of the multiplier, and of course
essentially all CW.
>
> Conditions were spooky. there was a solar storm thursday that
caused high absorption. signals slowly came back across the weekend,
getting better by the hour. Short skip was the order of the day, CA
stations reported they couldn't work the east coast, but from here we
could work both coasts. 15 meters had no skip north of a certain
line across the west. We were just barely under that line, and
especially Sunday morning managed a quick one hundred contacts in
ninety minutes there.
>
> We made 985 QSO's which exceeds the all time previous high ever
made by anyone in the 1B2 QRP category. We won't know until December
whether this holds up to win this year and become the new record.
Now we regret taking half an hour off for dinner together as we might
have gone over 1,000 QSO's had one of us stayed on.
>
> We also had good luck trout fishing, saw wild turkey almost in the
campsite, had very good weather, and our hostess on the ranch brought
some bullwhips and spent a little time teaching me to crack them.
this probably was the cause of my partner producing more contacts
than he ever had in the past ;-)
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
> op of W5YA
>

# 593. Re: [cw_bugs] Field Day W5YA

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-26 13:41:09 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 591  Message: 593

At 07:22 AM 6/26/2007, cloud runner wrote:

>Sorry we didn't manage to QSO, Earl. the distance is pretty
>tough. We did work West Texas section, but no one nearer than
>that. Congratulations on your score improvement. You must be
>making good strides with your CW.

If I wasn't out of town driving so much, I would probably be
better. And isn't that how it always is" "If only..."

>We run QRP (5 watts) because of the multiplier, and of course
>essentially all CW.
>
>Conditions were spooky. there was a solar storm thursday that
>caused high absorption. signals slowly came back across the
>weekend, getting better by the hour. Short skip was the order of
>the day, CA stations reported they couldn't work the east coast, but
>from here we could work both coasts. 15 meters had no skip north of
>a certain line across the west. We were just barely under that
>line, and especially Sunday morning managed a quick one hundred
>contacts in ninety minutes there.

Ah -- do you stay on 20 and above? Seems like 40 should
work pretty well.

>We made 985 QSO's which exceeds the all time previous high ever made
>by anyone in the 1B2 QRP category. We won't know until December
>whether this holds up to win this year and become the new
>record. Now we regret taking half an hour off for dinner together
>as we might have gone over 1,000 QSO's had one of us stayed on.
>
>We also had good luck trout fishing, saw wild turkey almost in the
>campsite, had very good weather, and our hostess on the ranch
>brought some bullwhips and spent a little time teaching me to crack
>them. this probably was the cause of my partner producing more
>contacts than he ever had in the past ;-)

Sounds like a great Field Day! With all the problems I had
with the other guy just flat insisting he's gonna work the same band
I was on, it left a bit to be desired.

And another problem -- somebody (kids, I suspect) was
fooling around with the (antique ~60-year old) carrying box for one
of my bugs and broke the leather handle. Of course, they didn't have
enough nerve OR integrity to let me know, they left it for me to find
when packing up Sunday morning. Hmph.

I suspect I may operate Field Day next year on my own
somewhere, maybe as a 1E station.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 594. Field Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-27 13:20:22 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 550  Message: 594

Yes, we worked 400 QSO's on 40 meters, 450 on 20, and 120 on 15 mtrs. No 80 or 10. with two man team, the energy spent to put up additional antennas we have not found to pay back in QSO's.

The handle on your bug case: the leather rots from hand oils and if it broke that easily, would have done so soon, regardless. I can tell you how to make a restored handle for it if you wish. You do not, I suspect must not, try to remove the metal handle attachment. It is rivetted and as far as I know, it does not come off!

Club operations invariably compromise to accommodate the most people. To find what you want in a field day, like wild turkey, trout, and bullwhips ;-) you will likely need to do something with just a few people of a like mind. (For me to find anyone of a like mind has proven pretty difficult, hi hi).

73, Fred - kt5x

# 595. Re: [cw_bugs] Field Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-27 15:27:07 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 550  Message: 595

At 07:20 AM 6/27/2007, cloud runner wrote:
>The handle on your bug case: the leather rots from hand oils and if
>it broke that easily, would have done so soon, regardless. I can
>tell you how to make a restored handle for it if you wish. You do
>not, I suspect must not, try to remove the metal handle
>attachment. It is rivetted and as far as I know, it does not come off!

Well -- I'm in the habit of not using it, I carry the box
like a football to keep from stressing it. The kids that were there...

>Club operations invariably compromise to accommodate the most
>people. To find what you want in a field day, like wild turkey,
>trout, and bullwhips ;-) you will likely need to do something with
>just a few people of a like mind. (For me to find anyone of a like
>mind has proven pretty difficult, hi hi).

Funny, my wife says something about my mind from time to time...

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 596. Why knobs???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-30 18:39:32 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 596  Message: 596

OK, I tried an idea on a hunch and it works for me. I have a couple of new red finger pieces from Vibroplex left over a from another project. I find it is much easier to send good code with dual fingers pieces instead of one finger piece and a knob, the universal configuration from Vibroplex.

The idea came to me when after noticing I could transition from dit to dah with better timing, if I put my fingers on the right side of the single finger piece, rather than on the knob. The letter U has especially been a problem for me, as I find it very hard not to start the start dah, after a dit, too soon. On the letter U, the dah seems to start before the dot has finished. Switching to dual finger pieces has helped this a lot. In fact it makes sending by rocking the wrist, uch easier.

I am using a 1953 Gold Deluxe Presentation bug recently acquired from a friend. The Presentation is one of the bugs Milt, K4OSO, recommends. Thanks Milt! It feels very light and responsive. The problem is that dual finger pieces appear very odd, since all Vibroplex bugs use one finger piece and a knob.

I have a 1965 Vibro Keyer, single lever paddle, that has the one finger one knob combination. But it is OK since a keyer compensates for timing issues.

I have tried to correct the timing issues in my fist on a bug, but can't seem to correct for it consistently. Am I the only one with this problem?

73,

Steve N6VL

# 597. Re: Why knobs???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-06-30 20:43:00 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 596  Message: 597

The difference in knobs may be a throuw back to the old railroad days. If you were going to send a wire with someone else's bug it's easy to tell if it's a left hand or right hand bug.

72 de Scott/n7net

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> OK, I tried an idea on a hunch and it works for me. I have a couple
> of new red finger pieces from Vibroplex left over a from another
> project. I find it is much easier to send good code with dual
fingers
> pieces instead of one finger piece and a knob, the universal
> configuration from Vibroplex.
>
> The idea came to me when after noticing I could transition from dit
> to dah with better timing, if I put my fingers on the right side of
> the single finger piece, rather than on the knob. The letter U has
> especially been a problem for me, as I find it very hard not to
start
> the start dah, after a dit, too soon. On the letter U, the dah
seems
> to start before the dot has finished. Switching to dual finger
pieces
> has helped this a lot. In fact it makes sending by rocking the
wrist,
> uch easier.
>
> I am using a 1953 Gold Deluxe Presentation bug recently acquired
from
> a friend. The Presentation is one of the bugs Milt, K4OSO,
> recommends. Thanks Milt! It feels very light and responsive. The
> problem is that dual finger pieces appear very odd, since all
> Vibroplex bugs use one finger piece and a knob.
>
> I have a 1965 Vibro Keyer, single lever paddle, that has the one
> finger one knob combination. But it is OK since a keyer compensates
> for timing issues.
>
> I have tried to correct the timing issues in my fist on a bug, but
> can't seem to correct for it consistently. Am I the only one with
> this problem?
>
> 73,
>

> Steve N6VL
>

# 598. New Members

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-01 03:14:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 598  Message: 598

We've had several new members lately, here's a blurb from the latest:

At 02:55 PM 6/30/2007, DENNIS SMITH wrote:
>I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN YOUR GROUP
>BEEN HAM 49 YEARS ALL CW AND MOSTLY QRP
>THANKS DENNIS W SMITH
>702 FREEMAN JONESBORO AR 72401
>CALL W5VAF
>
>Dennis Smith
>W5VAF
>Jonesboro, Ar Craighead Cty EM45PT
>Look for me on SKYPE daily
> ARRL NAQCC 1304 SKCC 759 QRP ARCI 10777
> FP QRP 258 AR QRP 276 NJ QRP 320
> 10-10 nr 2324
> Active ham since April 1962

Welcome, Dennis!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 599. Re: Why knobs???

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-01 12:49:29 UTC
From: Dave Loftus
Topic: 596  Message: 599

Speaking of left-handed code ("sinister CW"), I'm a lefty but use a right-handed V'plex Original with the just the knob/finger piece reversed so my left index finger is on the knob and my left thumb is on the paddle. I guess it never occurred to me that I was sending code in an opposite fashion than the crowd, i.e., my finger for the dits and thumb for the dahs. It's just how I learned and never gave it a second thought! You people really send dits with your thumbs? How odd . . .

Dave W5MKT
Sinister CW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Scott Laughlin" <n7net@...> wrote:
>
> The difference in knobs may be a throuw back to the old railroad
> days. If you were going to send a wire with someone else's bug it's
> easy to tell if it's a left hand or right hand bug.
>
> 72 de Scott/n7net
>

# 600. Completely taking advantage of the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-05 02:56:27 UTC
From: jess gypin
Topic: 600  Message: 600
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 601. Blue Racer for sale.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-06 23:56:40 UTC
From: deezulsmoke
Topic: 601  Message: 601

Hi all,

I thought that this might be the right place to put this up for sale. I have a NIB current production Blue Racer. The first 12 of these went to internal employees and others, making my #13 the first in this new series to be sold to the public. I am offering this bug for $220.00. Medical condition requires sale. Please send all requests for pics and information to ontarget1911@.... I don't use this email address for regular mail, just list reading. I can also be called at 303.921.6587 and 303.661.9110 if email is too slow ;-)

Jess Gypin
AE0CW

# 602. Looking for EF Johnson Speed-X Parts Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-13 20:01:09 UTC
From: "Tony"
Topic: 602  Message: 602

Hello to group.
Does anyone out there happen to have an old Johnson Speed-X bug that you might consider a "parts bug". I need the complete "dash post" complete with the little slide for "locking" the bug. Any help?
Thanks for reading..
Kind Regards,
Tony, W4FOA

PS: Could also use the complete base if it is in halfway decent shape.

# 603. Re: Looking for EF Johnson Speed-X Parts Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-13 23:32:41 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 602  Message: 603

Some of the Vibroplex parts will fit. Might not be perfect for the collector, but you will have a useable bug.

# 604. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for EF Johnson Speed-X Parts Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-14 00:21:23 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 602  Message: 604

Thanks Bill...I've got the bug working FB but am hoping to find a parts bug to restore it to "near" its former self, hi. It wasn't treated well by its former owner(s).
73
Tony

----- Original Message -----
From: Bill
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2007 7:32 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Looking for EF Johnson Speed-X Parts Bug

Some of the Vibroplex parts will fit. Might not be perfect for the collector, but you will have a useable bug.

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.2/894 - Release Date: 7/10/2007 5:44 PM

# 605. July RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-14 21:17:53 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 605  Message: 605

This Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is July 22nd at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

72 es "oo"
Larry W2LJ FP#612

# 606. 1943 Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-15 23:46:22 UTC
From: Joseph Park
Topic: 606  Message: 606

Has anyone heard of a Model called Black Jewel, 1943 vintage ??

Joe WB6AGR

# 607. Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 00:08:18 UTC
From: Joseph Park
Topic: 582  Message: 607

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> I have watched to the Quicktime video from Vibprolex at
> http://www.vibroplex.com/1946_deluxe_n8ux.mov. The video shows
sending
> with a definite working of the fingers and not the rolling of the
palm
> on the table surface. While the fleshing part of the palm is on the
> table, the stroking of the paddle seems to be all fingers.
>
> I have read a lot about how to sending with a bug, but no visual
> tutorials except for the above video.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
I can open the URL, and cant find it on their website.

Joe WB6AGR

# 608. Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 00:21:47 UTC
From: Joseph Park
Topic: 582  Message: 608

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Joseph Park" <ktnjoepark@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@> wrote:
> >
> > I have watched to the Quicktime video from Vibprolex at
> > http://www.vibroplex.com/1946_deluxe_n8ux.mov. The video shows
> sending
> > with a definite working of the fingers and not the rolling of the
> palm
> > on the table surface. While the fleshing part of the palm is on
the
> > table, the stroking of the paddle seems to be all fingers.
> >
> > I have read a lot about how to sending with a bug, but no visual
> > tutorials except for the above video.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Steve N6VL
> >

Oops, I meant to say I can NOT open the URL

Joe

# 609. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex online video and sending style...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 03:18:44 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 582  Message: 609

Probably for the best. Roll your hand - if slow speed make the throw very wide.

You'll figure it out.

73

DR

On 7/15/07, Joseph Park <ktnjoepark@...> wrote:
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Joseph Park" <ktnjoepark@...> wrote:
> >
>
> Oops, I meant to say I can NOT open the URL
>
> Joe
>
>

# 610. Re: W6AM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 03:32:29 UTC
From: Joseph Park
Topic: 333  Message: 610

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> That sure looks like the Swantenna to me. I've been looking for one
for
> years.
>
> Grover
>
> On 3/21/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> > At 04:38 PM 3/21/2007, David Ring wrote:
> > >Here is a picture of his mobile setup
> > ><http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html>
> > http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html
> > >
> >
> > Just wondering -- is that a Swantenna or a MasterMobile? Or
> > something else entirely?
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl

This is an early model Swan Antenna, later they modified the coil
with some capacitors, so you could pre-tune it to 75 40 or 20 to
desired spots on those bands and QSY on the road between those bands
without stopping

I have 2 of them.

Joe WB6AGR
> >
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 611. Re:1943 Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 13:09:22 UTC
From: G0RDO
Topic: 606  Message: 611

Perhaps it refers to a Black Base plus the red jewels bug.? (Wartime Original Deluxe with black base).
There were a few Wartime Originals made with a black base rather than grey.There is one on ebay at the moment.

John / G0RDO
www.morsemad.com

John Snell / G0RDO

www.morsemad.com

# 612. Re:1943 Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 15:04:47 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 606  Message: 612

I own a J-36 Vibroplex, serial #108 Dated 29 Jan 1943

72 de Scott/n7net

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, G0RDO <g0rdo@...> wrote:
>
> Perhaps it refers to a Black Base plus the red jewels bug.?
(Wartime Original Deluxe with black base).
> There were a few Wartime Originals made with a black base rather
than grey.There is one on ebay at the moment.
>
> John / G0RDO
> www.morsemad.com
>
>
>
> John Snell / G0RDO
>
> www.morsemad.com
>

# 613. Re: W6AM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-16 15:21:57 UTC
From: Scott Laughlin
Topic: 333  Message: 613

I have a book written about W6AM's life. I think the photo shown
from above his car was one claiming to be the first mobile kiowatt.

72 de Scott/n7net

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Joseph Park" <ktnjoepark@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@>
> wrote:
> >
> > That sure looks like the Swantenna to me. I've been looking for
one
> for
> > years.
> >
> > Grover
> >
> > On 3/21/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@> wrote:
> > >
> > > At 04:38 PM 3/21/2007, David Ring wrote:
> > > >Here is a picture of his mobile setup
> > > ><http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html>
> > > http://www.geocities.com/latemod97/swan2002/gallery005.html
> > > >
> > >
> > > Just wondering -- is that a Swantenna or a MasterMobile? Or
> > > something else entirely?
> > >
> > > 7 3
> > > Earl
>
> This is an early model Swan Antenna, later they modified the coil
> with some capacitors, so you could pre-tune it to 75 40 or 20 to
> desired spots on those bands and QSY on the road between those
bands
> without stopping
>
> I have 2 of them.
>
> Joe WB6AGR
> > >
> >
> > --
> > Grover Cleveland K7TP
> >

> > "Morse - everything else is QRM"
> >
>

# 614. July NAQCC Sprint & giveaway

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-17 01:51:15 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 614  Message: 614

This Wednesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Thursday, July 19th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Wednesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
Our special award this month goes to the one with the highest score working the most different call areas in the USA. It's the state that determines the call area, not the call sign number. For example working a W6 in Florida counts for the 4th call area, not the 6th.

The winner will win a set of CD's features K7QO, Chuck Adams' code course designed to increase code speed. Please see:
http://www.arm-tek.net/%7Eyoel//sprint200707.html for further details.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Wednesday night's sprint. To join the NAQCC, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on July 25th 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

# 615. Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-18 15:31:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham via Kubuntu
Topic: 615  Message: 615

Looking at
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200128213244> the
seller says,"These Speed-X keys are an easy to use key compared to the
Vibroplex bugs".

Is this true, or just a way to try and get bids?

Tnx es 7 3
Earl
--
Earl Needham KD5XB
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
ZUT

# 616. Re: Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-18 16:53:19 UTC
From: Stuart
Topic: 615  Message: 616

Its based on a vibroplex design, so I think the comment is for bids.

Stuart, GD0OUD

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham via Kubuntu
<needhame1@...> wrote:
>
>
> Looking at
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200128213244> the
> seller says,"These Speed-X keys are an easy to use key compared to
the
> Vibroplex bugs".
>
> Is this true, or just a way to try and get bids?
>
> Tnx es 7 3
> Earl
> --
> Earl Needham KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> ZUT
>

# 617. Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-18 19:43:43 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 615  Message: 617

Hi Earl,
I think they're quite easy to use. Had one on loan once. Its more like using a paddle. Finger pieces are same size and closely spaced. The weight adjustment is a dream. You only have to squeeze the little lever and slide the weight where you want it. Release your squeeze and, voila!, the weight is locked in place. The biggest difference is in the dot spring/dot space adjustment. They are made into one. Once you learn to adjust the space, lock it and adjust the tension, its a snap. For the short time I had the SpeedX, I enjoyed sending with the little guy. Its a fun bug to use. Your results may vary.
ZUT 73,
Milt k4oso

********** Get a sneak peek of the all-new AOL at http://discover.aol.com/memed/aolcom30tour

# 618. Re: Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-18 21:48:05 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 615  Message: 618

I have had a couple of the Johnson/Speed-X bugs. I did find them easier to use than the Vibroplex bugs. However, I no longer have any of either brand. I purchased a Viz Bug 90 degree and find it to be the best bug I have ever used.

I bought both of the John keys for under $40 within the last two years and sold one for $65 and the other for $160 during the past six months. I feel I was blessed to get money like that for them.

My 2 cents worth.

# 619. Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-18 22:31:38 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 615  Message: 619

Earl,

There are some differences but I don't know why there should be.

I have several Vibroplexi and several Speed-X/Les Logan bugs. I generally prefer the Speed-X bugs for their light, almost delicate feel and alsoa wider range of speed adjustment. I think that they are a little less fussy than the VB (whatever that means). Regardless I usually seem to gravitate to the Speed-X bugs.

This Speed-X bug on ebay is a nice example of the later output.

Grover K7TP

(Ask the man that owns one.)

On 7/18/07, Earl Needham via Kubuntu <needhame1@...> wrote:

> Looking at
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200128213244> the
> seller says,"These Speed-X keys are an easy to use key compared to the
> Vibroplex bugs".
>
> Is this true, or just a way to try and get bids?
--
Grover Cleveland K7TP

"Morse - everything else is QRM"

# 620. Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 03:45:26 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 620  Message: 620

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200129180715

WOW!
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 621. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 04:19:46 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 620  Message: 621

And it is cheap at what the buyer paid for it.

Notice anything special about it?

The contract bugs made by Lionel, Vibroplex and Bunnell were what type?

They were the Lightning Bug model type.

What model is this?

Have you ever seen one before, let alone one with a Bunnell case.

I'm very surprised that it didn't go for three times the amount.

If you have one, in similar condition, offer it here.

73

David N1EA

On 7/21/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200129180715
>
> WOW!
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> ZUT
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 622. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 04:28:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 620  Message: 622

At 10:19 PM 7/21/2007, David Ring wrote:

>And it is cheap at what the buyer paid for it.
>
>Notice anything special about it?
>
>The contract bugs made by Lionel, Vibroplex and Bunnell were what type?
>
>They were the Lightning Bug model type.
>
>What model is this?
>
>Have you ever seen one before, let alone one with a Bunnell case.
>
>I'm very surprised that it didn't go for three times the amount.
>
>If you have one, in similar condition, offer it here.
>
>73
>
>David N1EA
>
>On 7/21/07, Earl Needham
><<mailto:needhame1%40plateautel.net>needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> >
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200129180715>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200129180715

I have to admit my ignorance, I was watching that particular
bug because it is a "real" "Navy speed key". And even though I
actually have a Lionel bug at home, it just didn't hit me that the
Bunnell wasn't the same!

Now I feel kinda silly, having thought to bid $75 for it...

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 623. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 07:31:59 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 620  Message: 623

I've never seen one like this before. There was also a very unusual Bunnell that I fell in love with. The design of the base of the key was stepped or notched or "coined" as I've heard it described.

It was on eBay about 8 years ago. I bid on it, but I didn't go to the "high sum" of $100 only to find out that it was a model that I've never seen again, nor has any one of the big key collectors.

The rest of them have bases like the regular Vibroplex or Lionel.

The other key that I could have bought a zillion times is the Bunnell Gold Bug - which is a terrible sending key. I never bought one because of how bad it sent, but now they're worth a small fortune. (Probably going for about $1000 or more).

The McElroy Stream Bug S-600 is often seen to go for $1000 or more. That is a good looking and good to send with bug.

73

David N1EA

73

David N1EA

# 624. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 13:03:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 620  Message: 624

At 01:31 AM 7/22/2007, David Ring wrote:
>I've never seen one like this before. There was also a very unusual
>Bunnell that I fell in love with. The design of the base of the key
>was stepped or notched or "coined" as I've heard it described.
>
>It was on eBay about 8 years ago. I bid on it, but I didn't go to the
>"high sum" of $100 only to find out that it was a model that I've
>never seen again, nor has any one of the big key collectors.
>
>The rest of them have bases like the regular Vibroplex or Lionel.

Is it possible these were prototypes, rather than production
items? That might explain the rarity.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 625. Used bugs seen for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 13:18:31 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 625  Message: 625

I am always on the lookout for bugs of interest. Hence, I have noticed there are some that just never come up for sale. Not including real collector's items, I see that GHD production bugs never appear for sale used. Is this due to their excellence or due to low numbers in existance?

# 626. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 15:02:35 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 620  Message: 626

I believe these were the Bunnell/Martin keys.
Check: http://www.zianet.com/sparks/flash.html
You will see the model that was just sold near the bottom of the page.
They were Vibroplex clones. They are hard to find.

On 7/22/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 01:31 AM 7/22/2007, David Ring wrote:
> >I've never seen one like this before. There was also a very unusual
> >Bunnell that I fell in love with. The design of the base of the key
> >was stepped or notched or "coined" as I've heard it described.
> >
> >It was on eBay about 8 years ago. I bid on it, but I didn't go to the
> >"high sum" of $100 only to find out that it was a model that I've
> >never seen again, nor has any one of the big key collectors.
> >
> >The rest of them have bases like the regular Vibroplex or Lionel.
>
> Is it possible these were prototypes, rather than production
> items? That might explain the rarity.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> ZUT

--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 627. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 16:25:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 620  Message: 627

Don your right - but It isn't a just a flash key - this one clearly has a US Navy contract label and is number 223 and the US Navy contract number is given. I would say it could be a Bunnell/Martin Flash key made under U.S. Navy contract.

Early Flash keys were made by Martin Research and Manufacturing and later by Bunnell.

The ones with the Martin name plate don't confuse me, but the later ones were made by Bunnell.

This is an odd key for sure. A Bunnell USN Flash key!

I remember seeing a Presentation Vibroplex on a 2.5 inch wide base with minature hardware and everything else was standard - jeweled movement, red finger pieces. It was basically a Presentation that was a Blue Racer. Oh, it was also a lefty key. Talk about rare. Vibroplex did special orders. You could also order a Blue Racer on a 3.5 inch base - which I thought was rather strange, but after using a Blue Racer, I appreciated the zip of the minature movement but the base was too small. BINGO - that's how the special order was born. Someone else had noticed that also.

73

David N1EA

On 7/22/07, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
> I believe these were the Bunnell/Martin keys.
> Check: http://www.zianet.com/sparks/flash.html
> You will see the model that was just sold near the bottom of the page.
> They were Vibroplex clones. They are hard to find.
>
>
> On 7/22/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> >
> > At 01:31 AM 7/22/2007, David Ring wrote:
> > >I've never seen one like this before. There was also a very unusual
> > >Bunnell that I fell in love with. The design of the base of the key
> > >was stepped or notched or "coined" as I've heard it described.
> > >
> > >It was on eBay about 8 years ago. I bid on it, but I didn't go to the
> > >"high sum" of $100 only to find out that it was a model that I've
> > >never seen again, nor has any one of the big key collectors.
> > >
> > >The rest of them have bases like the regular Vibroplex or Lionel.
> >

> > Is it possible these were prototypes, rather than production
> > items? That might explain the rarity.
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > ZUT
>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 628. Re: [cw_bugs] Good Gracious!!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-22 17:38:25 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 620  Message: 628

Also that lovely finish on the base, a look of leather.

A beauty!

enjoy
On Jul 21, 2007, at 9:19 PM, David Ring wrote:

> And it is cheap at what the buyer paid for it.
>
> Notice anything special about it?
>
> The contract bugs made by Lionel, Vibroplex and Bunnell were what
> type?
>
> They were the Lightning Bug model type.
>
> What model is this?
>
> Have you ever seen one before, let alone one with a Bunnell case.
>
> I'm very surprised that it didn't go for three times the amount.
>
> If you have one, in similar condition, offer it here.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
> On 7/21/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>>
>> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?
>> ViewItem&item=200129180715
>>
>> WOW!
>> Earl
>>
>> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>> ZUT
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links

>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

Fernando N2FQ
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq>

# 629. Re: [cw_bugs] Used bugs seen for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-23 02:20:42 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 625  Message: 629

GHD bugs, I1QOD bugs, Schurr bugs, are so excellent that they never come up for sale. There are also a few HiMound keys that are so excellent and rare that you see one maybe every ten years at flea markets and eBay - more often now on eBay where seller and buyer can meet more easily.

When did you last see an I1QOD bug for sale?
When did you last see a Schurr bug (very rare) for sale?

Never! But look at the numbers - there's 100 years of Vibroplex keys out there!

73

David N1EA

On 7/22/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
>
> I am always on the lookout for bugs of interest. Hence, I have noticed
> there are some that just never come up for sale. Not including real
> collector's items, I see that GHD production bugs never appear for sale
> used. Is this due to their excellence or due to low numbers in
> existance?
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 630. Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 05:54:49 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 630  Message: 630

Video showing KPH and NMC and YL sending "slap-shot" on a bug.

Also ELT and EPIRBs.

http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758

73

David Ring, N1EA

# 631. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 13:54:59 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 630  Message: 631
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 632. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 13:38:15 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 630  Message: 632

At 11:54 PM 7/23/2007, David Ring wrote:

>Video showing KPH and NMC and YL sending "slap-shot" on a bug.
>
>Also ELT and EPIRBs.
>
><http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758>http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758

Veeeeeery interesting.....

Makes me wonder if I've been "doing it wrong", and I'd like
to see (and hear) a bit more!

Thanks for the link,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 633. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 14:27:36 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 630  Message: 633
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 634. Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 15:57:29 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 630  Message: 634

I'm no authority but, that style looks a bit exaggerated, to me.
But, its the results that count, eh? I wouldn't want to flail about
like that. My wrist/arm would be worn out. Having said that, this a
good example of individual style/ergonomics and an argument against
any one-size-fits-all dogma.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 11:54 PM 7/23/2007, David Ring wrote:
>
> >Video showing KPH and NMC and YL sending "slap-shot" on a bug.
> >
> >Also ELT and EPIRBs.
> >
> ><http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?
section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758>http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?
section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758
>
> Veeeeeery interesting.....
>
> Makes me wonder if I've been "doing it wrong", and I'd
like
> to see (and hear) a bit more!
>
> Thanks for the link,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> ZUT
>

# 635. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-24 17:29:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 630  Message: 635

It IS a bit exagerated! But commercial operators bat the keys around much more than hams (at least newer hams) do because they "grew up" on bugs and hand keys - not keyers. Most of the equipment on ships wouldn't work with a keyer because the current and sometimes the voltage would burn the switching transistors up. It was common to have either 240 vac on the keyline (foreign ships) or 120 vac on the keyline - usually at about 300 to 400 milliampers (or for 240 vac about 150 to 200 milliamperes).

Every ship station that I've ever seen or used had no side tone. If you used a bug you'd have to count the relay clacking on the transmitter, or build up some sort of r.f. keyed sidetone generator, or find a hefty relay and put it in a box and interface (connect) your bug to that box and key both the transmitter but also a code oscillator (sidetone). I used a Curtis EK430 keyer with a Clair HGJM series mercury wetted relay (the relay alone cost me $50 in 1978). Of course the cost was nothing compared with figuring out a circuit protection that would work on both positive and negative voltages (simple now: just a 1 Meg ohm resistor across the contacts of the relay with a small capacitor across that.) But I went through a few hundred dollars of different relays to find one that worked!

One that worked - and was in high demand because it did - was the old Hallicrafters HA! keyer - also called the T.O. Keyer after it's maker Jim Ricks, W9TO (now SK).

73

David N1EA
=30=
On 7/24/07, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> I'm no authority but, that style looks a bit exaggerated, to me.
> But, its the results that count, eh? I wouldn't want to flail about
> like that. My wrist/arm would be worn out. Having said that, this a
> good example of individual style/ergonomics and an argument against
> any one-size-fits-all dogma.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>

# 636. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-25 00:57:39 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 630  Message: 636
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 637. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-25 01:53:14 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 630  Message: 637
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 638. Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-25 17:21:39 UTC
From: ktnjoepark@aol.com
Topic: 630  Message: 638

I cant find the KPH Vidio ?? I did bring up the KGO site

Joe WB6AGR

********** Get a sneak peek of the all-new AOL at http://discover.aol.com/memed/aolcom30tour

# 639. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-26 01:56:42 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 630  Message: 639

At 11:21 AM 7/25/2007, ktnjoepark@... wrote:

>I cant find the KPH Vidio ?? I did bring up the KGO site
>
>Joe WB6AGR

Joe, did you get to see it? It's at
<<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758>http://abclocal.go
.com/kgo/story?section=drive_to_discover&id=5479758
>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
ZUT

# 640. Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-26 17:49:03 UTC
From: ktnjoepark@aol.com
Topic: 630  Message: 640

Thanks, I didn't realize the vidio was in the GPS msg. I guess I will have to dig out my 1956 Vibroplex I used on the Navy Schedule between Oahu Hi. and Samoa

Joe WB6AGR

********** Get a sneak peek of the all-new AOL at http://discover.aol.com/memed/aolcom30tour

# 641. Re: [cw_bugs] Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-26 21:34:32 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 630  Message: 641
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 642. Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-28 04:53:22 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 630  Message: 642

Fellows:

Its about time I chime in, but that not so much about DA, but about the gentleman pictured just after her. That is Bill W1HIJ/6 who works at my local HRO store in Anaheim.

Bill is a bug devotee and uses a 1931(???) Vibroplex Lightning bug. He just doesn't like any bugs built after the war. Bill is involved with the Coast Guard Auxillary (I think). He does his CW from 25 to 35 wpm. He has personally adjusted my bugs for, until I mess them up again. He is one of only two bug users I have met personally. His call is a vanity call, the same one he had a number of years ago somewhere in New England.

Back to DA: I have settled on a less exagerated version of her style. Only I tend to swing my forearm instead of the wrist. Perhaps someday, when I am faster, I'll revisit the technique. But it is good to know there those out there with more radical styles than mine, and with excellent results.

I'll have to point Bill W1HIJ/6 to the video link.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 643. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-28 09:39:55 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 630  Message: 643
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 644. Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-28 22:17:27 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 630  Message: 644

Adam,

Here is an update from Bill W1HIJ/6. I just went to HRO and chatted with Bill. His bug is a 1939 Zephyr, not the 1931 Ligthning I had thought. Bill thought his bug as a 1939 Champion until Mr. Dillman told him it was a Zephyr. It is the bug shown in the video. He was holding it down with his left hand because he forgot his shelf liner. Bill also has a Radio Telegraph license, so he was operating both KPH and K6KPH.

Bill was telling his KPH story to a couple other customer, but I was occupied talking to another neighbor ham friend of mine.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 645. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Slap Shot Bug Sendng

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-29 00:14:47 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 630  Message: 645
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 646. FS: Vibroplex Original Standard, S/N 104494

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-30 20:34:10 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 646  Message: 646

Hello to the group:

I have my Vibroplex Original Standard up for sale.
Click the URL below for pictures and details.
http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/104494/
Please only reply to my email address listed at QRZ.com

Thanks for your interest!

Jack, N0NV

# 647. Re: FS: Vibroplex Original Standard, S/N 104494 -- SOLD

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-07-31 03:23:15 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 646  Message: 647

I now have a buyer -- thanks for the feedback.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "nzeronv" <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> Hello to the group:
>
> I have my Vibroplex Original Standard up for sale.
> Click the URL below for pictures and details.
> http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/104494/
> Please only reply to my email address listed at QRZ.com
>
> Thanks for your interest!
>
> Jack, N0NV
>

# 648. Voice below 3.6 MHz

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-04 03:38:52 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 648  Message: 648

Received this very important message from Dick Singer - things are not what has been going around.

READ THIS CAREFULLY - and let's support those who oppose the elimination of the "SQUEEZE" of CW.

When replying - make sure you reply only to one reflector - I've put in several on the address.

73

DR

David N1EA

----- Original Message -----
From: RAC HFBPC
To: Dick Singer/K6KSG
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2007 9:50 AM
Subject: Re: Voice below 3.6 MHz

Dick de Jim VE1JF (member, RAC HF Band Planning Committee)--

We agree; note the second paragraph of our introduction to the plan:
http://www.rac.ca/service/RAC_Draft_HF_Band_PlanR1.pdf

Our RAC President and VP-International will shortly be attending a Region 2 Band Planning meeting; they will be presenting and supporting a strong position paper from us requesting that Region 2 reverse this position, which compresses both CW and digital. We hope our position will receive broad support from other Region 2 IARU members.

Please feel free to share this information with others who may be interested. It appears from at least some of the comments we are receiving that this item is being disseminated as originated by us; the actual advocates of below-3600 voice are outside Canada.

73,

Jim, VE1JF

On 8/3/07, Dick Singer/K6KSG <k6ksg@...> wrote:
>
>
> Sirs;
>

> Please reconsider your proposal for increasing the use of voice (SSB) operations below 3.6 MHz in the 80 meter CW band.
>
> We amateur operators in the U.S. use these frequencies for CW traffic nets and general communications.
>
> The added interference that would occur would be very difficult to operate CW and pass traffic as well as for general CW communications.
>
> Please reconsider.
>
> Thank You,
>
> Richard Singer/K6KSG

# 649. Special milliWatt RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-05 00:48:47 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 649  Message: 649

Are you chained to your "QRP KiloWatt"? Have you ever wanted to try milliWatting but were afraid that it might be too hard, or perhaps too frustrating; or just plain futile? This Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding a special milliWatt Run For The Bacon! This is your chance to see just exactly what less than a Watt can do! This challenging, and perhaps eye opening, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

It will work EXACTLY like a normal RFTB with one important exception - you MUST run less that 1 Watt of power!

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is August 12th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening - who will be named the "Top Piglet of the Sty"?

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 650. BlueRacer hybrid

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-06 00:56:25 UTC
From: P. Grover Cleveland
Topic: 650  Message: 650

I made a discovery today (verification sought here) that seems to say that my 1919 Vibroplex Original is really a Blue Racer hybrid! I hope I am right.

Here's what happened: I borrowed a friend's Blue Racer dating to the early twenties for the purpose of cleaning it and adjusting the mechanism; it was a filthy key. I was admiring it and then set it down next to my "Original" and noticed that the mechanisms were identical in every way, but mine was mounted on a japaned, pin-striped 3.5" base. Then I looked more carefully at photos of Originals of the 1919-1920 era and for the first time noticed that the yoke on those is always square whereas mine is the "cloverleaf" variety. My Martin Jr. of 1919 has a yoke that is of this square variety.

Can this be the case - do I have an early BR hybrid after all?

A photo of the bug in question is in my folder. Please take a look.

Grover

K7TP

# 651. Re: [cw_bugs] BlueRacer hybrid

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-06 02:33:23 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 650  Message: 651
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 652. Re: [cw_bugs] BlueRacer hybrid

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-06 03:10:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 650  Message: 652

You will be able to tell by:

The height of the frame. (BR is shorter)
The length of the pendulum (Blue Racer is shorter)
The damper - early BR had a small platform on which was mounted on the furthest side away from the pendulum, a small wheel. This has been called the "U" damper as it resembles a very wide U shape in profile.

Because of the the size of the Blue Racer parts is miniature (smaller both side to side but also lengthwise), positioning the key so that it is centered from front to back, and the middle of the thumb finger piece (button) lies so that the centerline is just over the base of the key. It is now balanced to the eye but the base now gets in the way of finger movement for many operators.

The button on Original will extend completely (or nearly so) so that the button is NOT above the base but is suspended above the desk. One of the "features" of the Blue Racer that operators didn't like was the position of the button - this resulted in the operators fingers hitting the base when transitioning from holding the key to operating the shorting lever switch, or simply from going from receive (pencil or MILL) back to the key.

The major parts on the Blue Racer are minaturized.

If the damper is a standard "J" damper (swinging damper) and the parts are small it is probably a Junior.

The Blue Racer was available with a choice of bases - either the standard 2.5 inch base or the base used on the Original which was 3.5 inches. There have also been some 3 inch base Blue Racers that used the base of the Junior (and later the Zephry). These were available by special order. The finish was either dark blue or black with gold pin striping, or at additional cost, a nickle plated base was available.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA

On 8/5/07, P. Grover Cleveland <clevelandg@...> wrote:
> I made a discovery today (verification sought here) that seems to say
> that my 1919 Vibroplex Original is really a Blue Racer hybrid! I hope
> I am right.
>

> Here's what happened: I borrowed a friend's Blue Racer dating to the
> early twenties for the purpose of cleaning it and adjusting the
> mechanism; it was a filthy key. I was admiring it and then set it down
> next to my "Original" and noticed that the mechanisms were identical
> in every way, but mine was mounted on a japaned, pin-striped 3.5"
> base. Then I looked more carefully at photos of Originals of the
> 1919-1920 era and for the first time noticed that the yoke on those is
> always square whereas mine is the "cloverleaf" variety. My Martin Jr.
> of 1919 has a yoke that is of this square variety.
>
> Can this be the case - do I have an early BR hybrid after all?
>
> A photo of the bug in question is in my folder. Please take a look.
>
> Grover
>
> K7TP
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 653. Re: [cw_bugs] BlueRacer hybrid

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-06 03:33:04 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 650  Message: 653
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 654. Re: [cw_bugs] BlueRacer hybrid

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-06 03:55:46 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 650  Message: 654

I just found out that you had a picture!

It looks like (from your description) that you have both:

1) An Original with a cloverleaf frame and a U damper.
2) A Blue Racer with Original parts on a Original base.

I think it is most likely that it is an Original with a cloverleaf frame and a U damper - but I will tell you it is darned odd.

And I just looked at Tom French's web page - not having seen any advertisement for the Blue Racer on the 3.5 inch base, I'm curious about one thing. Compare the placement of the button knob with relation to the base. It is placed like an Original which suggests to me that the key is NOT a Blue Racer but an Original.

Grover, measure (carefully) the size of the pendulum, the height of the cloverleaf frame and the length of the main lever. They should be a different (smaller) size than your Original.

It won't be the first time Tom French has been wrong. He told me that my left handed Original was not worth much - but he is selling one for $350 or so. I told him that would be a realistic price for it. He said they're common and not worth much. He must have been wrong about the price and thankfully realized it before he sold one of them. Of course the price might have doubled since last year. I'll give him the benefit of the doubt.

73

DR

David N1EA

Sometimes Vibroplex substituted parts - but
On 8/5/07, P. Grover Cleveland <clevelandg@...> wrote:
> I made a discovery today (verification sought here) that seems to say
> that my 1919 Vibroplex Original is really a Blue Racer hybrid! I hope
> I am right.
>
> Here's what happened: I borrowed a friend's Blue Racer dating to the
> early twenties for the purpose of cleaning it and adjusting the
> mechanism; it was a filthy key. I was admiring it and then set it down
> next to my "Original" and noticed that the mechanisms were identical
> in every way, but mine was mounted on a japaned, pin-striped 3.5"
> base. Then I looked more carefully at photos of Originals of the
> 1919-1920 era and for the first time noticed that the yoke on those is

> always square whereas mine is the "cloverleaf" variety. My Martin Jr.
> of 1919 has a yoke that is of this square variety.
>
> Can this be the case - do I have an early BR hybrid after all?
>
> A photo of the bug in question is in my folder. Please take a look.
>
> Grover
>
> K7TP
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 655. Spark and CW Sound Files Added to Radio Officers page

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-10 22:36:46 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 655  Message: 655
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 656. NAQCC August Sprnt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-14 03:41:36 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 656  Message: 656

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday, August 15th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
The purpose of having a special award is to perhaps award a certificate to someone who knows they can't win one of the regular 1st/2nd/TNW certificates, but would still like one of our beautiful NAQCC certificates to display in the shack. Our special award this month goes to the one with the highest score who has in his log a station starting with A,K,N, and W.

The winner will win a set of CD's features K7QO, Chuck Adams' code course designed to increase code speed. Please see:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200708.html for further details.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Tuesday night's sprint.
To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on August 21st 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 657. August RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-19 00:14:31 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 657  Message: 657

This Sunday evening the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International will be holding its monthly Run For The Bacon. This is a friendly, two hour QRP CW Sprint, which is open to ALL radio amateurs, will last from 9:00 - 11:00PM EDT (0100-0300 UTC Monday).

You may work stations once per band on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 or 10 Meters. Suggested starting frequencies are 1.812, 3.562, 7.044, 14.062, 21.062, and 28.062 MHz.

The exchange is RST, S/P/C (State, Province, Country) and Flying Pigs membership number. If you're not a member of the Flying Pigs, and would like to be; then please click on the "membership" hyperlink on .http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/ Otherwise, non-members can just use their output power figure.

You can report your score via the Autolog page which can be found at :
http://gentzow.com/fpqrp/autolog.asp
or you can mail your logs to the address given on the Autolog page. The deadline for logs is August 26th at 2400 UTC.

Hope to catch you on the air Sunday evening!

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 658. Vibroplex For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-23 19:26:50 UTC
From: "Tony"
Topic: 658  Message: 658

```
For Sale:
Vibroplex Original Deluxe (1947).
Some pitting on chrome, complete, fully operational.
$125 shipped to lower 48.
73
Tony, W4FOA
```

# 659. Fun Recording - Storm & Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-30 01:04:29 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 659  Message: 659
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 660. Re: Fun Recording - Storm & Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-30 02:00:39 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 659  Message: 660

Cool, David. Thanks,
Milt
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Fun Morse code recording = made by R/O Ed McCarthy, W1YT in 1989 from
> Florida, USA.
>
> STORM and BUG -
> N1EA/MM<http://mikea.ath.cx/www.n1ea.coastalradio.org.uk/Thunderstorm%
2520and%2520Rain%2520with%2520nature%2520sounds.mp3>
>
> http://mikea.ath.cx/www.n1ea.coastalradio.org.uk/Thunderstorm%20and%
20Rain%20with%20nature%20sounds.mp3
>
> 73
>
> David Ring, N1EA
> =30=
>

# 661. vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-31 14:03:14 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 661  Message: 661

Is it hard to take off the name plate from my 100th Anniversary bug?
Do the pins just pop out? Any chance of fouling it up? I want to take
it all apart and polish it.
Thanks, Bill NT9K..

# 662. Re: [cw_bugs] vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-31 14:40:11 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 661  Message: 662
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 663. Re: [cw_bugs] vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-31 14:36:20 UTC
From: Grover Cleveland
Topic: 661  Message: 663
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 664. Re: [cw_bugs] vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-31 17:00:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 661  Message: 664
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 665. Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-08-31 17:32:53 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 661  Message: 665

DITTO--
Just remember to alternate between the two pins. If you drive one
completely out, you could end up bending the plate. Have fun.
Milt k4oso
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Grover Cleveland" <clevelandg@...>
wrote:
>
> I drive them out with a drift pin of the proper size and a small
hammer.
>
> Grover K7TP
>
> On 8/31/07, Bill <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
> >
> > Is it hard to take off the name plate from my 100th Anniversary
bug?
> > Do the pins just pop out? Any chance of fouling it up? I want to
take
> > it all apart and polish it.
> > Thanks, Bill NT9K..
> >
> >
> >
>
>
>
> --
> Grover Cleveland K7TP
>
> "Morse - everything else is QRM"
>

# 666. Vibroplex Parts Discount

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-01 16:24:02 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 666  Message: 666

Hello Tony,

The 10% discount on keys ordered from me directly includes discount on parts and accessories.

Here are the parts and drawings for the Vibroplex Original:
Original Parts List
http://www.vibroplex.com/parts_list_original_7_15_06.htm
Original Drawing
http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_machine_drawing.pdf

I'm guessing you're looking for bug finger pieces, but all the newer finger pieces are still made. Vibroplex ran out of the trapezodial type used on the older keys about three years ago.

In short the parts that aren't available are:

Shorting switches both red and black types - but some parts are.
La Hiff adjustable mainspring lever assembly.
Flat pendulum assembly for Lightning Bug, Champion, Zephyr.

Parts no longer the exact same:
Top red decorative part - is no longer a screw, is a pin you must glue in.
Silver contacts - slightly different than what they were - but seem to work just as well.

73
--
David J. Ring, Jr.

N1EA
http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/

=30=

# 667. Elecraft K3

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-01 14:31:15 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 667  Message: 667

If you are not a subscriber to the Elecraft discussion group, you likely had not heard this, and I think members of the list may be interested...

The K3 has a lot of upgradable and dowloadable software in it. It can be programmed to do a lot of intersting things. Here is one...

If you tune into a digital mode signal, PSK31 for example, the copy will scroll on the radio's LCD. But even more interstingly, you can elect to have the radio decode it from digital-speak into Morse such that when you tune across a PSK31 signal, you hear Morse!

73, Fred kt5x

# 668. Union Pacific keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-03 01:05:25 UTC
From: w6hv
Topic: 668  Message: 668

A friend of my is trying to help the rangers at Kelso Train Station restore the station. He indicates "up to now it looks as good or better than new. The telegraph station when you look in has a high speed (sideswiper) bug... The problem is it is the only telegraph key they have. It is not of the period the station had when first went into operation."
He further states:
"Union Pacific bought a whole bunch of telegraph keys back in 1904 or abouts and they were not bugs (but) they were good old brass pounders.The keys they should have were manufactured and replaced in the 1904 period to 1942. 1904 is preferred for that is the restoration point in time. Can any of the hams come up with the correct make and model used by Union Pacific? And not being a high selected forestry project, could a key be found or a more suitable key be found to replace the mechanical side swipe bug they have on display?"
Any help? I bet DR has an answer.
73,
Troy

# 669. Re: [cw_bugs] Union Pacific keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-03 07:08:17 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 668  Message: 669

Sideswipers and Vibroplex keys were two different type of keys.

The Bunnell Double Speed key was invented and made in 1888. It was a different design of a telegraph key which was worked side to side with a single lever, double contact. points on either side. The motion was side to side with each side completing the circuit. Both sides were used alternately and the operator was responsible for lingering while making the contact to form the elements of the Morse code.

The Vibroplex key was invented and made in 1905, by Horace Martin.

Both keys were made in New York City - the hotbed of commerce and telegraphy.

A Bunnell Triumph straight key and a Bunnell sideswiper - I think by 1905 both varieties of the double speed key - including the often seen "Type W" which has adjustable tension were available, the Triumph most certainly was an it was the design that first used a steel lever which wouldn't bend.

Someone on the morsecode@... reflector would be more knowledgable than I am.

73

DR

On 9/2/07, w6hv <w6hv@...> wrote:
> A friend of my is trying to help the rangers at Kelso Train Station
> restore the station. He indicates "up to now it looks as good or
> better than new. The telegraph station when you look in has a
> high speed (sideswiper) bug... The problem is it is the only telegraph
> key they have. It is not of the period the station had when first went
> into operation."
> He further states:
> "Union Pacific bought a whole bunch of telegraph keys back in 1904 or
> abouts and they were not bugs (but) they were good old brass
> pounders.The keys they should have were manufactured and replaced in
> the 1904 period to 1942. 1904 is preferred for that is the restoration
> point in time. Can any of the hams come up with the correct make and
> model used by Union Pacific? And not being a high selected forestry
> project, could a key be found or a more suitable key be found to
> replace the mechanical side swipe bug they have on display?"
> Any help? I bet DR has an answer.
> 73,
> Troy
>
>
>

```
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
```

# 670. Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-06 21:34:53 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 661  Message: 670

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Hello everyone,
>
> Someone told me that the new Vibroplex keys don't have drive pins, the name
> plates are glued on. Can somone confirm?

Well, I guess if you flip it over and you see the pins coming out of the bottom, you know they're pinned in.

Since nobody else has answered yet, I'll try to remember to look at my fairly recent original bug when I get home.

John
Ai4RE

# 671. Re: Elecraft K3

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-06 21:40:13 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 667  Message: 671

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
> If you tune into a digital mode signal, PSK31 for example, the copy will scroll on the radio's LCD. But even more interstingly, you can elect to have the radio decode it from digital-speak into Morse such that when you tune across a PSK31 signal, you hear Morse!
>

I knew the plan was for it to decode PSK and display the scrolling text, but this is the first I heard that it would translate it to audible Morse.

The Kenwood TS-2000 has packet decoder built in and the Icom 746ProII has an RTTY decoder built in, so decoding and displaying a digital mode isn't a new idea, but what I found interesting is the K3 can SEND digital modes without a computer or keyboard, but taking the characters from your paddles! That would make it truly portable while still allowing you to work digital.

On the decode-to-Morse thing, I wonder if they'll have some buffer that will allow the Morse to be slowed. PSK31 averages about 50 WPM.

John
Ai4RE

# 672. Re: Union Pacific keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-06 21:43:07 UTC
From: ai4re
Topic: 668  Message: 672

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "w6hv" <w6hv@...> wrote:
> restore the station. He indicates "up to now it looks as good or
> better than new. The telegraph station when you look in has a
> high speed (sideswiper) bug... The problem is it is the only
telegraph
> key they have. It is not of the period the station had when first
went
> into operation."

If it's a genuine Bunnell Double Speed, they seem pretty rare.
Actually, ANY sideswiper is pretty rare. They could probably sell it
and fund the purchase of several keys of the type they need.

# 673. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-06 21:56:15 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 661  Message: 673
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 674. Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-06 22:48:28 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 661  Message: 674

I have some old Vibroplexes that do not have pins, but are glued on.
If the nameplate has pins, it is readily obvious.....you can see them
from the top. You don't have to turn the key over.
Milt k4oso
th--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@...m, "David Ring" <n1ea@> wrote:
> >
> > Hello everyone,
> >
> > Someone told me that the new Vibroplex keys don't have drive
pins,
> the name
> > plates are glued on. Can somone confirm?
>
> Well, I guess if you flip it over and you see the pins coming out
of
> the bottom, you know they're pinned in.
>
> Since nobody else has answered yet, I'll try to remember to look at
my
> fairly recent original bug when I get home.
>
> John
> Ai4RE
>

# 675. Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-07 13:56:25 UTC
From: John Snell
Topic: 661  Message: 675

I have a few Vibroplexes ( http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm )
and most of the labels are pinned, but from about 1979 in my collection ( a brown based Lightning ) the labels are glued on.
Hope that's of some help. John / www.morsemad.com

# 676. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-07 15:04:17 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 661  Message: 676

John Snell wrote:

> I have a few Vibroplexes ( http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm
> <http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm> )
> and most of the labels are pinned, but from about 1979 in my
> collection ( a brown based Lightning ) the labels are glued on.
> Hope that's of some help. John / www.morsemad.com
> <http://www.morsemad.com>
>
> __._I think you'll,_.___
> Messages in this topic
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/message/661;_ylc=X3oDMTMzbG5xNzQzBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAM2NzUEc2VjA2Z0cgRzbGsDdnRwYwRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1NjczBHRwY0lkAzY2MQ-->
> (0) Reply (via web post)
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/post;_ylc=X3oDMTJwYW82NDdlBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAM2NzUEc2VjA2Z0cgRzbGsDcnBseQRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz?act=reply&messageNum=675>
> | Start a new topic
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/post;_ylc=X3oDMTJmYTZjMHFoBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNudHBjBHN0aW1lAzExODkxNzU2NzM->
>
> Messages
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/messages;_ylc=X3oDMTJmcnJ2bGs1BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNtc2dzBHN0aW1lAzExODkxNzU2NzM->
> | Files
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files;_ylc=X3oDMTJnbzNpYnY2BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNmaWxlcwRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz>
> | Photos
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos;_ylc=X3oDMTJmMWY1ZHRyBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNwaG90BHN0aW1lAzExODkxNzU2NzM->
> | Links
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/links;_ylc=X3oDMTJncmRvdHZwBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNsaW5rcwRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz>
> | Database
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/database;_ylc=X3oDMTJkN3FzZ3E1BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNkYgRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz>
> | Polls
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/polls;_ylc=X3oDMTJnanAxbDM4BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNwb2xscwRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz>
> | Members
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/members;_ylc=X3oDMTJmdGx0ZXVtBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNtYnJzBHN0aW1lAzExODkxNzU2NzM->
> | Calendar
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/calendar;_ylc=X3oDMTJlamtpNDNmBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGd

ycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNjYWwEc3RpbWUDMTE4OTE3NTY3Mw-->
>
> Yahoo! Groups
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/;_ylc=X3oDMTJlZXAxYm1hBF9TAzk3NDc2NTkwBGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdyc
HNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNnZnAEc3RpbWUDMTE4OTE3NTY3Mw-->
>
> Change settings via the Web
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/join;_ylc=X3oDMTJnczhzOTdvBF9TAzk3NDc2NTkwBGdycEl
kAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNzdG5ncwRzdGltZQMxMTg5MTc1Njcz>
> (Yahoo! ID required)
> Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest
> <mailto:cw_bugs-digest@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email%20Delivery:%20Digest>
> | Switch format to Traditional
> <mailto:cw_bugs-traditional@yahoogroups.com?subject=Change%20Delivery%20Format:%20Tradit
ional>
>
> Visit Your Group
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs;_ylc=X3oDMTJlODRyc2xqBF9TAzk3NDc2NTkwBGdycElkAzE4
OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNocGYEc3RpbWUDMTE4OTE3NTY3Mw-->
> | Yahoo! Groups Terms of Use <http://docs.yahoo.com/info/terms/> |
> Unsubscribe <mailto:cw_bugs-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=>
> Visit Your Group
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs;_ylc=X3oDMTJmZ2pzaG5tBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4
OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDdnRsBHNsawN2Z2hwBHN0aW1lAzExODkxNzU2NzM->
>
> Yahoo! Finance
>
> It's Now Personal
> <http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=12jl32f78/M=493064.10729649.11333340.8674578/D=groups/S=170
8396379:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1189182873/A=4507179/R=0/SIG=12de4rskk/*http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=
50284/*http://finance.yahoo.com/personal-finance>
>
> Guides, news,
>
> advice & more.
>
> Sell Online
>
> Start selling with
> <http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=12j1jts5a/M=493064.10729657.11333348.8674578/D=groups/S=170
8396379:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1189182873/A=4025291/R=0/SIG=12bsapn24/*http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=
44092/*http://smallbusiness.yahoo.com/merchant>
>
> our award-winning
>
> e-commerce tools.
>
> Moderator Central
>
> Get answers to
> <http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=12jrpvjc5/M=493064.10729651.11333342.8674578/D=groups/S=170

8396379:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1189182873/A=4699084/R=0/SIG=115gt68pf/*http://moderators.groups.yahoo.com/>
>
> your questions about
>
> running Y! Groups.
>
> .
> I think you'll find that the glued on plats are D7 (Maine ) plates.
> The brown and beige based keys are Maine keys. After the Maine keys
> the plates were pinned again.

73
Tim W3ZVT

>

# 677. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-07 23:36:45 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 661  Message: 677

k4oso wrote:

> I have some old Vibroplexes that do not have pins, but are glued on.
> If the nameplate has pins, it is readily obvious.....you can see them
> from the top. You don't have to turn the key over.
> Milt k4oso
> th--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
> "ai4re" <ai4re@...> wrote:
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
> "David Ring" <n1ea@> wrote:
> > >
> > > Hello everyone,
> > >
> > > Someone told me that the new Vibroplex keys don't have drive
> pins,
> > the name
> > > plates are glued on. Can somone confirm?
> >
> > Well, I guess if you flip it over and you see the pins coming out
> of
> > the bottom, you know they're pinned in.
> >
> > Since nobody else has answered yet, I'll try to remember to look at
> my
> > fairly recent original bug when I get home.
> >
> > John
> > Ai4RE
> >
> The only Vibroplex keys with glued on plates were the Maine keys.
> Those were also the only brown/beige keys.
>

> _Ti_._,_.___
> Yahoo! Groups
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/;_ylc=X3oDMTJlMXZyNWtoBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdyc
HNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNnZnAEc3RpbWUDMTE4OTExODk0OQ-->
>
>
>

# 678. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: vibroplex name plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-08 01:54:12 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 661  Message: 678
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 679. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Union Pacific keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-08 03:58:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 668  Message: 679

The Bunnell Sideswiper came out in 1888 - the Vibroplex in 1905.

73

DR

On 9/6/07, ai4re <ai4re@...> wrote:
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "w6hv" <w6hv@...> wrote:
> > restore the station. He indicates "up to now it looks as good or
> > better than new. The telegraph station when you look in has a
> > high speed (sideswiper) bug... The problem is it is the only
> telegraph
> > key they have. It is not of the period the station had when first
> went
> > into operation."
>
> If it's a genuine Bunnell Double Speed, they seem pretty rare.
> Actually, ANY sideswiper is pretty rare. They could probably sell it
> and fund the purchase of several keys of the type they need.
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 680. NAQCC September Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-18 01:15:00 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 680  Message: 680

This Wednesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Thursday September 20th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
The purpose of having a special award is to perhaps award a certificate to someone who knows they can't win one of the regular 1st/2nd/TNW certificates, but would still like one of our beautiful NAQCC certificates to display in the shack. Our special award this month goes to the one with the highest score using 4 watts or less power. If the highest scorer wins a 1st or 2nd place certificate, then the SA goes to the next highest scorer.

Prize:
Continuing this month we are giving away a set of CD's to one participant according to the following rules:

1. The participant meeting the requirements below and posting the highest score will be the winner of a set of CD's in the following months: July, August, September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May.
A. Requirements: The participant must be a NAQCC member and can not have won a CD set previously. Previous winners are:
K4BAI (Jul 07)
K1EV (Aug 07)
B. If the highest scorer does not meet the requirements, then the CD set winner will be the next highest scorer who does meet the requirements.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Tuesday night's sprint. To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on September 26th 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

NEW! NEW! NEW!
Be sure to use the new NAQCC Sprint Autologger feature! Please visit http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/sprintlog.html after the Sprint to send in your entry!

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 681. NAQCC Sprint clarification

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-18 23:25:27 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 681  Message: 681

Sorry for the confusion - the Sprint is Wednesday evening - Thursday morning UTC time.

NOT Tuesday evening as I had erroneously posted.

Glad to see you're all paying attention!

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 682. NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint this Sunday!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-22 02:11:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 682  Message: 682

It's that time of year, again! Time for the Fall edition of the NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint. It will be held this Sunday night (Monday morning UTC time). So put on your headphones, grab your key and come join us for a spell. Work a half-hour, work an hour, work all four! The point is to join in and have some fun!

This time, however, this will be a CW ONLY event, due to the lack of PSK-31 entries.

Mission: Promote homebrewed & homemade equipment on the air together. Kits are considered homebrew. Anyone with ANY equipment can enter; and is highly encouraged to do so!

Sponsor: New Jersey QRP Club ( http://www.njqrp.org )

When: The fourth Monday in March and in September, 0000-0400 UTC (Sunday evening in USA/Canada)

Modes: CW only, starting this edition, QRP friendly frequencies recommended on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters.

Exchange: RST - State/Province/Country - Power out

QSO Points:
2 Commercial Equipment
3 Homebrew Xmtr or Rcvr
4 Homebrew Xmtr AND Rcvr or Xcvr
(Kits are okay for homebrew)

Power Mult: The highest power used during the contest determines the multiplier ...
a) >5W = X1
b) >1-5W = X7
c) >250mW - 1W = X10
d) 250mW or less = X15

Multiplier: State/Province/Country for all bands. The same station may be worked on more than one band for QSO points and SPC credit.

SCORE: Points(total for all bands)
x SPC (total for all bands)
x power multiplier.

Awards: Awards: Special certificates will be awarded.

Results: Sprint results will be published on the NJQRP Web pages

Logs: Entries must be received by 30 days from the contest. The log sheets and summary should be included. E-mail logs are accepted in text form. (No word processor files etc). Also paper logs are ok. Include an SASE or E-mail address for the results, if desired. Please include your Soapbox info with your equipment and exploits.

Send logs to:

Larry Makoski, W2LJ
327 Clinton Place
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

or send by email to w2lj@...

Spring 2007 Results

N4BP Bob 19964 pts
WG7Y Bob 7772 pts
KR1S Jim 5824 pts
KG4W Ed 3570 pts
AB1AV Bill 2268 pts
KD2MX Paul 1792 pts
WB8LZG Gregg 1512 pts
K8KFJ Gary 840 pts
W1PID Jim 224 pts
W5ESE Scott 168 pts
VE3HUR Don 112 pts

Soapbox:

I didn't hear much except static crashes - no AGC isn't nice on the eardrums! - VE3HUR

Where was the activity??? Quit after the first two hours for lack of anyone to work. - N4BP

I set up my DSWs and listened for the first half hour on 40 and 80. I didn't hear anyone playing! So I quit. Then I thought, " I can't quit." So I listened on 40 with the FT-900. There was Bob, N4BP. The only player. I worked him and quit again. Then I listened again an hour later. 40 was very dead. But Bob had moved to 80 and I worked him there. Then I picked up Bill AB1AV and KG4W in VA. So I quit this sprint 3 times. - W1PID

Thanks for a fun contest. But where did everyone go after 0200Z??? I guess conditions really went downhill after that, but tried to keep going right to the end. Big surprise was WB8LZG, who I was sure was QRO, he was so loud. Really enjoyed getting a 119 from Bulgaria! - KR1S

My 20m antenna isn't the greatest so I decided to fire up on 40m. I was hoping I'd find enough Qs there to keep me somewhat busy. However, that didn't turn out to be the case. Since I didn't have 80m in the K1, I decided to stick it out there on 40 for a bit but the sparce activity continued. I never did get to work any west coast stations. I heard K7TQ work N4BP but then he disappeared. Anyway, I thank the sponsor for this event and the opportunity to
work other homebrewers and play radio. - K8KFJ

Participation seemed light, or perhaps propagation only covered the East Coast. N4BP was loud as usual, but KD2MX was really booming in. Maybe I'm not a contester, since I quit at bedtime, but I was glad to catch this sprint. - AB1AV

This is my entry for the HB Sprint on Sunday night 3-25-07. This is my 1st effort in the event.
- KG4W

The bands were very noisy and I lost a couple of potential QSOs in the QRN. Seemed like activity was way off from last year or conditions were worse then they seemed as QSOs were few and far between. - KD2MX

Very gud signals on the band tonight. W4QO was booming into Michigan with just 400mw ! WOW ! Great signal. Band went long abt 0130 Z here. Lots of fun es a gud turnout. - WB8LZG

Thanks alot for sponsoring the event. Didn't hear much activity, but decided to send in a log anyway. - W5ESE

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 683. Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Bug Discontinued

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-25 00:19:39 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 683  Message: 683

http://www.vibroplex.com/100th_anniversary_original.html
I have one of these with "overspray" on it. Mine looks fine.
No mention of the discounted price yet. Should be some good deals.
73, Bill NT9K..

# 684. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Bug Discontinued

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-25 00:27:52 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 683  Message: 684
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 685. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Bug Discontinued

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-25 01:06:39 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 683  Message: 685
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 686. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Bug Discontinued

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-09-25 01:14:29 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 683  Message: 686
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 687. Anybody on here who's wealthy?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-05 22:04:17 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 687  Message: 687

Many of you have probably already seen this, but in case you
haven't -- take a look:

<<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item
=110175607737&fromMakeTrack=true&ssPageName=VIP:Watchlink:middle:us>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 688. Virtual bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-07 20:27:17 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 688  Message: 688

Neat example at: http://www.ae4rv.com/tn/education/bug.htm

# 689. NAQCC October Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-09 01:45:59 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 689  Message: 689

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday October 10th, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
Our special award this month goes to the one who has the most QSO's with our special event call N3A/# in their log. We will have N3A/# calls from all 10 call areas active in the sprint. In case of a tie, the SA goes to the one with the highest score. If a 1st or 2nd place certificate winner also qualifies for winning the SA, the SA goes to the next highest scorer. That is because we want as many members as possible to receive one of our certificates. You must indicate in your report if you are applying for the SA, and how many N3A/# QSO's are in your log.

The following are our operators:

1 call area - N3A/1 - N1LU (NH)
2 call area - N3A/2 - KD2MX (NJ)
3 call area - N3A/3 - WY3H (PA)
4 call area - N3A/4 - AA4W (FL)
5 call area - N3A/5 - AE5BH (TX)
6 call area - N3A/6 - K6BBQ (CA)
7 call area - N3A/7 - WY7N (UT)
8 call area - N3A/8 - WB8LZG (MI)
9 call area - N3A/9 - W9ILF (IN)
0 call area - N3A/0 - NO2D (CO)

Prize:
We have TWO prizes this month.

Karl N3IJR has kindly donated a Hendricks DC40 QRP Transceiver kit to be given away in honor of the NAQCC's 3rd Anniversary this month. Club President Tom WY3H has decided it will be awarded to the highest scoring MEMBER who has never previously won a 1st or 2nd place certificate in our sprints nor won any other physical prize. In case you don't remember if you've ever won anything, here is a list of winners. Club officers not eligible. So if you qualify to be a winner, get geared up for a maximum effort this month to win this very nice prize. Tie breaking procedures will be the same as for our regular CD's giveaway below.

Continuing this month we are giving away a set of CD's to one participant according to the following rules:

1. The participant meeting the requirements below and posting the highest score will be the winner of a set of CD's in the following months: July, August, September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May.
A. Requirements: The participant must be a NAQCC member and can not have won a CD set previously. Previous winners are:
K4BAI (Jul 07)
K1EV (Aug 07)
KI4GLH (Sep 07)
B. If the highest scorer does not meet the requirements, then the CD set winner will be the next highest scorer who does meet the requirements.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Tuesday night's sprint.

To join the NAQCC, please visit: http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on October 16th 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

NEW! NEW! NEW!
Be sure to use the new NAQCC Sprint Autologger feature! Please visit http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/sprintlog.html after the Sprint to send in your entry!

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprintrules.html

# 690. [CW] Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-09 02:15:56 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 690  Message: 690

Does anyone know why the Wall Street Journal has always been kindly desposed to Morse code operators?

Perhape because some of us worked for the brokerage houses. I remember the Boston Stock Exchange had morse operators as late as 1972 (last time I saw them there). I talked to my broker and he said they had disappeared on the order wire by 1975 or so.

It was faster than teletype because you could tell the operator at the other end to WAIT - then have him copy a short message - the teletype had to finish one message before you could start another tape - or you'd just have to repeat the interrupted message in its entirity.

Bonus question who founded the Journal of Commerce?
SOC hint: http://www.joc.com/history/index.asp

73

DR

On 10/8/07, Artmouton <k5fnq@...> wrote:
> If anyone can get hold of today's Wall Street Journal there is an excellent
> front page article on one man's attempt to "save" morse code, entitled "One
> Man's Bid to Save Morse Code"
> You can get a peek at the article on line (I think) for today.
> http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB119161604206850468.html
> If not a trip to your stockbroker or library would be worth it to read the
> article
> Art K5FNQ
> (E-CW)
>
> _____
> CW mailing list
> CW@...
> http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw
>

# 691. Australian Simplex bug on eBay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-16 21:07:20 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 691  Message: 691

eBay item #110180391785.

Nice looking right angle bug with a cover. Perhaps the collectors feel $300 is OK, but I think it is a little high for starting the bidding. Either way, it will be interesting to watch.

There is also a nice no-name bug as item #150170359239. But, there again the owner is afraid to really sell at auction. The starting price is $95.

# 692. New member with the bug for a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-17 01:49:24 UTC
From: Randy Ott
Topic: 692  Message: 692

Hello all.

I've been a ham for 36 years and recently got more active with a new Icom IC-718. After getting involved in some straight key groups I decided that I needed to get a bug.

The next thing I know, I've made a purchase on eBay for a nice looking Vibroplex Original and now I'm waiting for delivery.

Today, I got a confirmation from Vibroplex of my order for a 100th Anniversary Original Bug. This is a "second" that they are selling for $157.46. I guess they have found some more of them from somewhere.

After using an Iambic keyer for several years, I probably have a lot of work ahead of me but I'm sure it will be rewarding.

Looks like I'm already hooked, huh?

Randy, K5HJ

# 693. Re: [cw_bugs] New member with the bug for a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-17 15:24:36 UTC
From: Michael Shelly
Topic: 692  Message: 693

Randy;

I've done the same on ebay, got a 50's champion for my
vintage station and 80's never used original for my
ICOM 765. Both work great! Had to slow down the
Original with the vari-speed, works great! I also had
to go from paddle to bug. Does take some practice.
Still alot of fun! Also use SK most of the time now!

Joining the new CW groups has revitelized my interest.
Used to chase DX until the sun went out.

CU on the air.
Mike
WB2KKI
Fists 12468
SKCC 2493

--- Randy Ott <k5hj@...> wrote:

> Hello all.
>
> I've been a ham for 36 years and recently got more
> active with a new
> Icom IC-718. After getting involved in some
> straight key groups I
> decided that I needed to get a bug.
>
> The next thing I know, I've made a purchase on eBay
> for a nice looking
> Vibroplex Original and now I'm waiting for delivery.
>
> Today, I got a confirmation from Vibroplex of my
> order for a 100th
> Anniversary Original Bug. This is a "second" that
> they are selling
> for $157.46. I guess they have found some more of
> them from somewhere.
>
> After using an Iambic keyer for several years, I
> probably have a lot
> of work ahead of me but I'm sure it will be
> rewarding.
>
> Looks like I'm already hooked, huh?
>

> Randy, K5HJ
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

---
Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

# 694. Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-17 21:56:28 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 694  Message: 694

I have one of these bugs. They were made from about 1920 into the 1950's. Most were used by the post office which was the equivalent to our Western Union. Morse code went out of their post office in the 70's and they discarded the bugs, most going to the dump. hence, even though about 7,000 were made, they are scarce.

There are nine versions of them, and die-hard collectors try to collect them all. in fact, the variations are so small, I can not see the difference.

Of great significance are the following two things:

* these bugs will go slower than ANY other bug, in normal configuration. Mine will slow to about 12 wpm.

* these bugs are entirely different from Vibroplex, in that they use a release mechanism. In this they resemble the Mecograph bugs of the early 1900's, the ones that got around the Vibroplex patent, as well they should have.

You may look at several close ups of the mechaism of mine at my website. < www.kt5x.com >

while a recent one of these sold for $230, historically, they have usually sold for around $500. Considering how unusual they are, and how scarce they are, that is a bargain!

73, Fred

# 695. Re: [cw_bugs] Australian Simplex bug on eBay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-18 04:32:11 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 691  Message: 695

There is nothing wrong with setting a minimum starting bid. It doesn't mean the seller is "afraid to really sell at auction" - it just means that the seller will sell at auction provided he gets a minimum.

I'd sell my left handed Blue Racer deluxe, but I would put a $0.01 starting bid on it.

I'd start with just slightly under what I would grievingly part with it for, then hope I'd get more.

Of course, there are also fools who don't know the value of what they're selling and put a $50.00 "Buy It Now" price on something like a Schurr Bug (only about 20 made - a very rare bug which cost new about $500.) or a WBL V2L paddle.

Both keys are well worth the minimum bid. The Simplex Auto generally gets around $500 for it. It is an excellent bug. At $300 it would be an absolute steal.

What would you pay for a 1905 Vibroplex unused and unopened in the original box? $10? Some things are valuable!

Ask someone how much it would cost to make ONE only in a machine shop. You'd get a fast education at what a value manufactured keys are.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA

On 10/16/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
> eBay item #110180391785.
>
> Nice looking right angle bug with a cover. Perhaps the collectors feel
> $300 is OK, but I think it is a little high for starting the bidding.
> Either way, it will be interesting to watch.
>
> There is also a nice no-name bug as item #150170359239. But, there
> again the owner is afraid to really sell at auction. The starting price
> is $95.
>
>
>
>
>

>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 696. Re: Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-18 10:32:16 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 694  Message: 696

I visited you page to look at the Simplex - I had recalled you have one pictured there. Wish you had a photo without the top cover on, so I could see the complete workings.

Personally, the Codetrol has it all over the others (et al).

Following the auction will be of interest - educationally. But in the end, it is all in the eye of the beholder.

73,

Bill

# 697. Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-18 22:14:17 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 694  Message: 697

Well, sorry, Bill, the apparent cover is more than that. It is actually the trunion support. in other words, if that is removed the key falls apart, (and it is quite annoying to put back).

The key uses a release mechanism. it is quite simple. The mainspring is permanently anchored to the base. The lever, deflects the mainspring, pushes against it, the lever has its own spring that is stronger. When you move the lever you release the mainspring to vibrate and make dits. the lever comes to rest against a stop, which you set to be far enough away from the mainspring to not touch it while it is in motion.

If you are unwilling to pay the premium for a scarce antique with history, you can purchase a Vizkey for much less.

73, FD - kt5x

W5YA / qrp/fists club call

www.kt5x.com

# 698. Re: Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-19 21:22:25 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 694  Message: 698

You hit it on the head - unwilling! I am only a user. I once was a collector of all kinds of things - keys, mics, old rigs, and guns. Then I got very sick and cleaned house so as to leave nothing for anyone else to have to dispose of. It must have been an excellent exercise for me - as I have felt great ever since (several years).

I have a VizKey 90 degree and really like it. It has a small footprint and operates wonderfully. Same for the Flame Proof.

I was afraid you were going to say the Simplex's cover was part of the frame. It appears heavy, not just covering material. Am I correct in assuming that it the loaded spring that allows the slow speed adjustment, vs assorted weights as used on most bugs?

Bill W2BLC

# 699. RadioTelegraphy.net

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-19 21:34:38 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 699  Message: 699

A couple months ago I sold the RadioTelegraphy.net website. For reasons unnown to me, the new owner has never claimed the URL, nor brought the site back to life. He did pay for it.

Although I needed the server space and had little time to devote to the site's upkeep - I feel bad the resource was removed from the Internet.

Hence, try this as an alternative:

http://www.w2blc.com/linkcw.htm it is not as flashy or complete as the original, however does contain many of the links and a few additional links.

W2BLC.com is my personal site and will be around for a long time. Please, enjoy and feel free to make comments (good or bad) and send in links for the site.

# 700. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-19 22:12:26 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 694  Message: 700

The VIZ key is an excellent key. I have the Merick version which is a very similar design. I'd say that the particular key under discussion is better than both - but it also has rarity to increase the price.

I believe the VIZ right angle is about $180 - but if I had a choice of that or a Australian Simplex Auto at $350, it would be an easy choice - the Simplex is well worth the money.

However not all expensive keys are worth they money for their non-collection use. The Bunnell Gold Bug comes to mind - very rare (people threw them away they were so bad senders) but I envy anyone who can send readable code with them.

73

DR

On 10/19/07, Bill <flyer@...> wrote:
> You hit it on the head - unwilling! I am only a user. I once was a
> collector of all kinds of things - keys, mics, old rigs, and guns. Then
> I got very sick and cleaned house so as to leave nothing for anyone
> else to have to dispose of. It must have been an excellent exercise for
> me - as I have felt great ever since (several years).
>
> I have a VizKey 90 degree and really like it. It has a small footprint
> and operates wonderfully. Same for the Flame Proof.
>
> I was afraid you were going to say the Simplex's cover was part of the
> frame. It appears heavy, not just covering material. Am I correct in
> assuming that it the loaded spring that allows the slow speed
> adjustment, vs assorted weights as used on most bugs?
>
> Bill W2BLC
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 701. Australian Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-20 15:32:08 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 694  Message: 701

Was interested to learn that the Vizbug right angle behaves well. Have never seen one, but it sure looks good!

I was afraid you were going to say the Simplex's cover was part of the frame. It appears heavy, not just covering material. Am I correct in assuming that it the loaded spring that allows the slow speed adjustment, vs assorted weights as used on most bugs?

Bill W2BLC

i guess one could say the covers serves as a frame though its only service is that there is a cone shaped almost hole for the upper trunion support. In the eraly ones it is obvious as it is adjustable. In the later ones the only trunion adjustment is on the bottom.

The mount for the mainspring, and the mount for the dit spring are both posts mounted on the base. The mainspring is deflected or released by the lever. The dit spring has its own separate adjustment which impacts the dot to space ratio. there is a sliding weight for the speed adjustment, but the mainspring is softer and longer than on a Vibroplex, hence its speed range is slower.

73, FD KT5X

# 702. Check out this beauty

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-23 19:48:26 UTC
From: Tony Martin W4FOA
Topic: 702  Message: 702

Gang,
What a beauty this guy has created. It is on the unmentionable place, 320173786663
Kind Regards,
73
Tony, W4FOA

# 703. Wooden Case for Vibroplex Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-26 04:38:43 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 703  Message: 703

Hello to the group:

Just few comments on my recently purchased (from the factory) wooden case for the Vibroplex Original. The case is made of oak and quite attractive compared to the cases of old.

What's odd is that it doesn't come with feet, rubber or otherwise. The exterior is finished throughout, so I added some screw-in rubber feet to protect the bottom.

Another functional difference about the new wooden case is that the bug isn't held into place. It simply lays in a socket in the bottom. The bug will dislodge and/or tip if the case is jostled. There is no groove to hold the bug in place like with the old cases. I compensated for this by adding layers of cardboard beneath the socketed bed, bringing the key up closer to the top so it can't dislodge.

Which brought me to another little problem. The screws for the handle are much longer than needed and protrude into the padding in the lid. Two of them line up perfectly with the bug frame, so I removed the screws and ground them down to the minimum length necessary (I didn't have shorter replacements in brass).

Another small matter is that my old Champion bug fits too snugly, lengthwise. The thumb piece contacts the interior wall, and could potentially be damaged if the case was to fall on that end. I imagine the same would hold true for a Lightning Bug.

I am happy enough with it after the modifications, but the old "end-fed" cases did a better job of protecting the key, in my opinion.

See the "Photos" section under my call for pictures.

73

Jack - N0NV

# 704. Re: [cw_bugs] Wooden Case for Vibroplex Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-26 04:52:54 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 703  Message: 704

Jack,

I had never noticed that the Champion thumb piece sticks out more than the Original bug.

The Champion had a trapezoid shaped thumb piece - and I always thought that was shorter than the long oval of the new type finger piece of the Original. (All old Vibroplex keys had the trapezoid finger pieces, but the Champion kept the old style for some reason.

I'll have to go measure my Champion.

73

DR

On 10/26/07, nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
> Hello to the group:
>
> Another small matter is that my old Champion bug fits too snugly,
> lengthwise. The thumb piece contacts the interior wall, and could
> potentially be damaged if the case was to fall on that end. I imagine
> the same would hold true for a Lightning Bug.
>

# 705. Re: Wooden Case for Vibroplex Original

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-26 05:08:59 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 703  Message: 705

Just measured them David,

The thumb piece of my 2007 Original extends 1 & 3/8 inches from the base. The trapezoidal thumb piece on my 1945 Champion measures 1 & 1/2 inches from the base -- just enough to notice when placed in the wooden case.

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Jack,
>
> I had never noticed that the Champion thumb piece sticks out more than
> the Original bug.
>
> The Champion had a trapezoid shaped thumb piece - and I always thought
> that was shorter than the long oval of the new type finger piece of
> the Original. (All old Vibroplex keys had the trapezoid finger
> pieces, but the Champion kept the old style for some reason.
>
> I'll have to go measure my Champion.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> On 10/26/07, nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:
> >
> > Hello to the group:
> >
> > Another small matter is that my old Champion bug fits too snugly,
> > lengthwise. The thumb piece contacts the interior wall, and could
> > potentially be damaged if the case was to fall on that end. I imagine
> > the same would hold true for a Lightning Bug.
> >
>

# 706. Blue Racer Standard for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-26 22:29:19 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 706  Message: 706

I am selling my Vibroplex Blue Racer Standard with grey base.
It is in very good condition. The chrome is not pitted but the castings
do have some small sand holes in them. There are a few nicks in the
paint along the edges of the base. It would look better if you would
take the time to disassemble it and clean each part.

$175.00 plus shipping and insurance.

I have put pictures of it in the photos section.

Please contact me off list at nn8b.oh(at)gmail.com.

73,
Don, NN8B

# 707. Sideswiper in Japanese Morse video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-26 22:56:39 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 707  Message: 707
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 708. RE: [cw_bugs] Sideswiper in Japanese Morse video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-27 00:25:13 UTC
From: Meir WF2U
Topic: 707  Message: 708

Here is a nice video of the Speed-X bug speed range:
http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=PwGGS8WYA7s

And on the VizKey (I like it!) : http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=vdZ_nw90UL4

Here is a homebrew looking sideswiper:
http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=d-famy1-MIE

73, Meir WF2U

Landrum, SC

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of
David Ring
Sent: Friday, October 26, 2007 6:57 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Sideswiper in Japanese Morse video

This is a side swiper video.

I believe the code being used is Japanese Wabun code.

http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=FY2rYl8WDLo

The Japanese alphabet has 48 characters - and to that are punctuation and
proceedural morse signals.

http://a1club.net/CW_J_e.htm

"Extra" hams in Japan until recently had to take a code test in 26 English
letters / 10 numbers plus the 48 Kana Japanese characters.

I wonder what the No Coders would have done with that?

73

DR

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.6/1086 - Release Date: 10/22/2007
7:57 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.6/1086 - Release Date: 10/22/2007
7:57 PM

# 709. Re: Sideswiper in Japanese Morse video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-10-27 16:34:45 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 707  Message: 709

Tnx Meir,

You just answered a question I had. I have a Speed-X bug (and a Japanese coffin bug) on the way from a eBay win, whenever my money order gets there. I wondered what the speed was, and it looks like the Speed-X bug is slow enough for me, hi hi. The slow speed on that video is about the speed I run my with bug tamers. I've heard the coffin bugs are slower too. My Speed-X will have a knob as one of finger pieces. I'd rather have two fingers pieces.

Guess I'll see how a non-Vibroplex feels!

73,

Steve N6VL

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Meir WF2U" <wf2u@...> wrote:
>
> Here is a nice video of the Speed-X bug speed range:
> http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=PwGGS8WYA7s
>
>
>
> And on the VizKey (I like it!) : http://jp.youtube.com/watch?
v=vdZ_nw90UL4
>
>
>
>
> Here is a homebrew looking sideswiper:
> http://jp.youtube.com/watch?v=d-famy1-MIE
>
>
>
> 73, Meir WF2U
>
> Landrum, SC

# 710. Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 04:51:55 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 710  Message: 710

I got a Japanese coffin bug off ebay. This one isn't labeled other than "Japan" on the bottom. I think the Hi-Mound BK-100 and the Skillman, are the same bug. Whatever one this is, it looks just like the BK-100 shown on Marshall's web site in the adjustments section.

That said, the coffin bug doesn't feel like any bug I've tried to date. All my other bugs are Vibroplexes. I find the coffin bug very smooth and easy to use. I was able to add a second 1/2 oz flat weight to it, which it gets down to about 16 wpm, right in my speed range. I immediately noticed I could send much faster and easier than with my 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug til now. I think some of it is due to the single flat paddle. I found it easier to send on the Vibroplex, if I didn't use the knob and used the single paddle. Perhaps that explains my ease with the coffin bug.

The coffin bug does have some draw backs. I have to remove the clear top cover to change the speed. And I have to loosen the arm, at the pivot, to add or remove a weight. On the plus side, it doesn't move around, even though the rubber feet are hardened, and I'm not using a shelf liner pad.

I also got a Johnson Speed-X 114-520, off ebay. It is not in as good condition. I've been so captivated by the coffin bug, I haven't tried the Speed-X yet. It needs cleaning up first.

Does anyone here have a coffin bug or ever tried one? I am surprised it isn't more popular. It seems to self correct some of the sending problems I've struggled with, like the letter U. I can't vouche for it at normal bug speeds, like 20 wpm and above. But it did seem easier for me to send at those speeds.

The photo is posted at
http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/view/b973?b=1.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 711. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 13:01:33 UTC
From: walt shipman - KI4OYH
Topic: 710  Message: 711

Had one back in '69, but it got lost during a reassignment. Did, as you say have a good feel, took a little work to adjust, etc. But, didn't have to worry about dust, or spilling coffee on it.

73
Walt
KI4OYH
:-{)>

----- Original Message ----
From: n6vl <n6vl@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, November 4, 2007 10:51:55 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

I got a Japanese coffin bug off ebay. This one isn't labeled other

than "Japan" on the bottom. I think the Hi-Mound BK-100 and the

Skillman, are the same bug. Whatever one this is, it looks just like

the BK-100 shown on Marshall's web site in the adjustments section.

That said, the coffin bug doesn't feel like any bug I've tried to

date. All my other bugs are Vibroplexes. I find the coffin bug very

smooth and easy to use. I was able to add a second 1/2 oz flat weight

to it, which it gets down to about 16 wpm, right in my speed range. I

immediately noticed I could send much faster and easier than with my

1953 Presentation, my favorite bug til now. I think some of it is due

to the single flat paddle. I found it easier to send on the

Vibroplex, if I didn't use the knob and used the single paddle.

Perhaps that explains my ease with the coffin bug.

The coffin bug does have some draw backs. I have to remove the clear

top cover to change the speed. And I have to loosen the arm, at the

pivot, to add or remove a weight. On the plus side, it doesn't move

around, even though the rubber feet are hardened, and I'm not using a

shelf liner pad.

I also got a Johnson Speed-X 114-520, off ebay. It is not in as good

condition. I've been so captivated by the coffin bug, I haven't tried

the Speed-X yet. It needs cleaning up first.

Does anyone here have a coffin bug or ever tried one? I am surprised

it isn't more popular. It seems to self correct some of the sending

problems I've struggled with, like the letter U. I can't vouche for

it at normal bug speeds, like 20 wpm and above. But it did seem

easier for me to send at those speeds.

The photo is posted at

http://ph.groups. yahoo.com/ group/cw_ bugs/photos/ view/b973? b=1.

73,

Steve N6VL


```
<!--

#ygrp-mkp{
border:1px solid #d8d8d8;font-family:Arial;margin:14px 0px;padding:0px 14px;}
#ygrp-mkp hr{
border:1px solid #d8d8d8;}
#ygrp-mkp #hd{
color:#628c2a;font-size:85%;font-weight:bold;line-height:122%;margin:10px 0px;}
#ygrp-mkp #ads{
margin-bottom:10px;}
#ygrp-mkp .ad{
padding:0 0;}
#ygrp-mkp .ad a{
color:#0000ff;text-decoration:none;}
-->

<!--

#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc{
font-family:Arial;}
#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc #hd{
margin:10px 0px;font-weight:bold;font-size:78%;line-height:122%;}
#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc .ad{
margin-bottom:10px;padding:0 0;}
-->

<!--

#ygrp-mlmsg {font-size:13px;font-family:arial, helvetica, clean, sans-serif;}
#ygrp-mlmsg table {font-size:inherit;font:100%;}
#ygrp-mlmsg select, input, textarea {font:99% arial, helvetica, clean, sans-serif;}
```

```
#ygrp-mlmsg pre, code {font:115% monospace;}
#ygrp-mlmsg * {line-height:1.22em;}
#ygrp-text{
font-family:Georgia;
}
#ygrp-text p{
margin:0 0 1em 0;}
#ygrp-tpmsgs{
font-family:Arial;
clear:both;}
#ygrp-vitnav{
padding-top:10px;font-family:Verdana;font-size:77%;margin:0;}
#ygrp-vitnav a{
padding:0 1px;}
#ygrp-actbar{
clear:both;margin:25px 0;white-space:nowrap;color:#666;text-align:right;}
#ygrp-actbar .left{
float:left;white-space:nowrap;}
.bld{font-weight:bold;}
#ygrp-grft{
font-family:Verdana;font-size:77%;padding:15px 0;}
#ygrp-ft{
font-family:verdana;font-size:77%;border-top:1px solid #666;
padding:5px 0;
}
#ygrp-mlmsg #logo{
padding-bottom:10px;}

#ygrp-vital{
background-color:#e0ecee;margin-bottom:20px;padding:2px 0 8px 8px;}
#ygrp-vital #vithd{
font-size:77%;font-family:Verdana;font-weight:bold;color:#333;text-transform:uppercase;}
#ygrp-vital ul{
padding:0;margin:2px 0;}
#ygrp-vital ul li{
list-style-type:none;clear:both;border:1px solid #e0ecee;
}
#ygrp-vital ul li .ct{
font-weight:bold;color:#ff7900;float:right;width:2em;text-align:right;padding-right:.5em;}
#ygrp-vital ul li .cat{
font-weight:bold;}
#ygrp-vital a{
text-decoration:none;}

#ygrp-vital a:hover{
text-decoration:underline;}

#ygrp-sponsor #hd{
color:#999;font-size:77%;}
#ygrp-sponsor #ov{
padding:6px 13px;background-color:#e0ecee;margin-bottom:20px;}
```

```
#ygrp-sponsor #ov ul{
padding:0 0 0 8px;margin:0;}
#ygrp-sponsor #ov li{
list-style-type:square;padding:6px 0;font-size:77%;}
#ygrp-sponsor #ov li a{
text-decoration:none;font-size:130%;}
#ygrp-sponsor #nc{
background-color:#eee;margin-bottom:20px;padding:0 8px;}
#ygrp-sponsor .ad{
padding:8px 0;}
#ygrp-sponsor .ad #hd1{
font-family:Arial;font-weight:bold;color:#628c2a;font-size:100%;line-height:122%;}
#ygrp-sponsor .ad a{
text-decoration:none;}
#ygrp-sponsor .ad a:hover{
text-decoration:underline;}
#ygrp-sponsor .ad p{
margin:0;}
o{font-size:0;}
.MsoNormal{
margin:0 0 0 0;}
#ygrp-text tt{
font-size:120%;}
blockquote{margin:0 0 0 4px;}
.replbq{margin:4;}
-->

__________________________________________________
Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com
```

# 712. coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 14:44:44 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 712  Message: 712

Yes, Steve, I had a coffin bug in 1959, from Lafayette Radio. It was called a Skillman. A year later for Christmas my Dad got me a Vibroplex Original deluxe which I still have. I switched to the Vibroplex with great excitement, only to find the Skillman was easier to use. The Vibroplex was certainly much better made, and with a bit of practice I got the hang of it, and no longer used the Skillman. The Skillman was OK at slow speeds, but the Vibroplex really shown from 30 to 50 wpm.

Some folks prefer the Vibroplex using two thumb pieces instead of the knob.

73,

Fred kt5x

www.kt5x.com

# 713. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 16:01:34 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 710  Message: 713

I have one of these bugs. I used it as a novice back in the early 70s. It was kind of clunky, but I discovered that one of the 1/16 inch ball bearings was missing from the pivot assembly. After installing the extra bearing, the bug started working quite nicely...no more clunkiness.

Along the way, I also discovered that I better liked how the bug worked if I didn't use ANY lube on the ball bearings.

The only reason I quit using the Skillman bug was that I found a Blue Racer that better fit my speed range. The Skillman's speed was about 15-25wpm and the Blue Racer was an odd one that would slow down to about 20wpm.

I still use the Skillman when I want to slow down but don't want to use a straight key.

Perhaps it is for the same reason--starting out with the knobless Skillman--I, too, don't like using the knob on a bug.

I always thought the plastic cover was a great thing. My novice transmitter was an Eico 723. It used cathode keying. The plastic cover would keep my fingers from "straying"..and me from being jolted awake.

Eric

# 714. Re: coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 17:22:21 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 712  Message: 714

Hi Fred,
Its very ironic that a few minutes I just finished a qso with W2FOM, Paul, a 91 yr old (soon to be 92) op who was using a Skillman Bug that he bought at Lafayette Radio many yrs ago. It sounded FB and his fist is still super.
73, Milt "OSO"

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Yes, Steve, I had a coffin bug in 1959, from Lafayette Radio. It was called a Skillman. A year later for Christmas my Dad got me a Vibroplex Original deluxe which I still have. I switched to the Vibroplex with great excitement, only to find the Skillman was easier to use. The Vibroplex was certainly much better made, and with a bit of practice I got the hang of it, and no longer used the Skillman. The Skillman was OK at slow speeds, but the Vibroplex really shown from 30 to 50 wpm.
>
> Some folks prefer the Vibroplex using two thumb pieces instead of the knob.
>
> 73,
>
> Fred kt5x
>
> www.kt5x.com
>

# 715. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 19:36:38 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 712  Message: 715

Hi, All -

Am enjoying the coffin bug thread. I have several of these carrying various brand names. The Lafayette Radio one is in pristine shape, with the original box intact.. I am trying to get the whole "suite" what are presently called the "High Mound" telegraph keys, and have a number of them. A very interesting predecessor of the Coffin Bug was the Swallow Bug. There are some photos of my example in an album in the photo section called SwallowBug
Also included is a recent effort of mine that was partly inspired by the High Mound "look".

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

–

# 716. Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-08 16:33:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 716  Message: 716

I was reading the ARRL Vintage Radio book this morning, and
noticed that American Morse ops that are now on ham radio are
supposed to be easy to spot, by the way the send letters like L (with
a longer dash than most of us use) and ZERO as a very long single dash, etc.

I realize there are people out there who try to make their
CW sound like a computer is sending it, exactly according to specs of
3:1, etc., but if one were to imitate the sound of these old CW ops,
would it be considered "the sincerest form of flattery" or simply a
lid trying to sound like he hit the big-time?

Hmm...
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 717. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-08 17:25:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 716  Message: 717
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 718. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-08 18:34:18 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 716  Message: 718

At 10:25 11/8/2007, David Ring wrote:

>Hello Earl,
>
>When coming across American Morse on the ham bands, the usual first
>thought is that this must be some foreign language.
>
>If your listening at the right time and several words go by that are
>identical in American Morse and International Morse - "send
>messages" would be one such sequence, then the operator continued,
>and you started getting something like "tee cim" - you might
>conclude that the operator just couldn't send.
>
>There are two excellent programs use to learn American Morse.

Well, David, that isn't exactly what I meant -- I really
meant lengthening certain dashes to imitate the sound of the older
ops who learned American Morse first -- but still sending Continental code.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 719. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-08 18:55:11 UTC
From: John, N5DWI
Topic: 716  Message: 719

David Ring wrote:
>
> [...]
>
> The Instructograph http://www.trwagner.org/Instructograph/default.htm
> The MILL http://home.comcast.net/~w4fok/
>
> The MILL works with the same serial connection as the Internet CW
program CWcom
> http://www.mrx.com.au/d_cwcom.htm so you often will hear American
Morse there.
>
> MILL is a GW Basic program compiled under DOS program - it has
problems working with Windows XP, but it works wonderfully with DOS Box
under Linux or Windows XP. The advantage is that the PC Speaker output
has been mapped to the regular sound card with DOS Box.
>
> The MILL run under DOS Box will run on Macintosh, Linux, Windows,
OS/2, BeOS and even more OS - see http://www.dosbox.sourceforge.net/
>
> However many of the American Morse users have migrated to Les Kerr's
KOB program
> http://home.earthlink.net/~n7rz/morse/
>
> The MILL should win some sort of prize for fitting all those features
he got in there - stellar screen saver, ship light signaling, etc. It
is a real gem of a program.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David Ring, N1EA

==========

David,

While "The Instructograph" by Ted Wagner, K9TRW, and "MorseKOB"
by Les Kerr, N7RZ, are fantastic programs, they are MS Windows only.
They are based on MS .net, which makes them incompatible with any
other O/S. Too bad they weren't written in standard (non-MS) Java.

Don't misunderstand, I have nothing (much) against Microsoft, but I
use another O/S, making these programs useless to me.

"The Mill" by Jim Farrior, W4FOK, however, is a good and versatile program, covering both American and Continental Morse.

It runs, as you say, on virtually every computer around. I use it constantly to send text files at high speed (to around 40 WPM) to improve my head copy vocabulary.

I just wish I could figure out how to put it on a bootable CDRW; DOS Box makes me nervous.

Maybe someday I'll get another Windows box to use
The Instructograph for straight practice and MorseKob to both practice and get on the "wire," but until then, "The Mill" is handling my current needs.

73 de john
(ex-K5HOQ)

# 720. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-08 20:00:44 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 716  Message: 720
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 721. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-09 16:33:04 UTC
From: John, N5DWI
Topic: 716  Message: 721

David Ring wrote:
>
> Hello John,
>
> I don't know why DOS Box should make you nervous! It is an excellent program and will run The MILL on all the "flavors" that DOS Box comes with - Windows 2000 and later, Linux, Mac, etc.
>
> You don't need DOS Box for Windows 98 and earlier as those operating systems have DOS underneath them.
>
> You can find a boot disk for freedos - non-Microsoft DOS here:
> http://www.freedos.org/freedos/files/
>
> Download the iso file for freedos, then use 7zip to edit the iso file - add the directory of c:/mill04a to the iso - and perhaps a batch file to automatically change directory to the mill04 subdirectory and then run "mill" . You can get 7zip here it is free. http://www.7-zip.org/
>
> No need to fear DOS Box - it is excellent open source program. With open source, it is difficult to smuggle bad program code into a program.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA

Hi, David

OK, based on what you said, I installed DOS Box on my Linux machine; set everything up according to instructions; typed in the command to run "The Mill;" held my breath and hit enter. And it worked like a charm !!!

I'm impressed. Now that it's on the HD, there's no waiting while the floppy drive catches up with the program calls. Very nice. Thanks for talking me into it!

Then, I downloaded the FreeDOS iso and the 7zip. The p7zip won't edit iso files (or at least the Linux version won't). So the plan now is to go ahead and burn the FreeDOS disk on a RW CD and try to add the "Mill" files afterward. I'll let you know if it works. I don't think it will, but, heck, it's worth a try. I'd really like to have it on a CD so that I can use it on other computers without changing anything on them.

Anyway, thanks a million for the advice !!!

73

John N5DWI
(ex-K5HOQ)

# 722. Re: [cw_bugs] Imitating American Morse landline operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-09 17:38:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 716  Message: 722
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 723. New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 02:50:53 UTC
From: John Barrows by way of Earl Needham
Topic: 392  Message: 723

Hi...

My name is John Barrows, Helena, Montana, KD7WYW. Not an active ham but very interested in telegraph keys, including "bugs". I am a frequent demonstrator for land line telegraph, and include elements of early radio telegraph when appropriate. I have a small collection of bugs and keys. I have only had a radio license a few years, but began work on the NOrthern Pacific Ry in 1963 as a telegrapher in American Morse and worked for a number of years.

Looking forward to follow the threads on keys, etc.

John Barrows, KD7WYW
American Morse Sine - "BA"

---

Be a better pen pal.
Text or chat with friends inside Yahoo! Mail. See how. http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 724. Re: [cw_bugs] New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 12:30:59 UTC
From: BPCI@aol.com
Topic: 392  Message: 724

Earl, I sent a message to John Barrows to tell him I am in Helena, too, but it went to your email address. Please forward it to him so we can get together. thanks and 73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
SKCC #22T

-----Original Message-----
From: John Barrows <needhame1@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Mon, 12 Nov 2007 7:50 pm
Subject: [cw_bugs] New member

Hi...

My name is John Barrows, Helena, Montana, KD7WYW. Not an active ham but very interested in telegraph keys, including "bugs". I am a frequent demonstrator for land line telegraph, and include elements of early radio telegraph when appropriate. I have a small collection of bugs and keys. I have only had a radio license a few years, but began work on the NOrthern Pacific Ry in 1963 as a telegrapher in American Morse and worked for a number of years.

Looking forward to follow the threads on keys, etc.

John Barrows, KD7WYW
American Morse Sine - "BA"

---
Be a better pen pal.
Text or chat with friends inside Yahoo! Mail. See how. http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

Yahoo! Groups Links

---
Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free AOL Mail! - http://mail.aol.com

# 725. Re: [cw_bugs] New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 12:45:56 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 392  Message: 725
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 726. Re: [cw_bugs] New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 13:28:17 UTC
From: needhame1@plateautel.net
Topic: 392  Message: 726

John Barrows, Helena, Montana, KD7WYW

John, I live in Helena, too. I would love to get together with you and learn from you. I have been a ham for about three and one-half years and love CW. I will try to call you later on today and see if we can get together. My number is 442-0345, and my address is 5407 Kerr Drive (in the valley near Forestvale Cemetary between Mill road and Forestvale). I have five bugs and have been playing with them about a year now.I am also a member of the Capital City Amateur Radio Club. There are only two or three of us who do CW, and only one other bug operator (Dick Beaton, N7RB). He was licensed in 1934 and was an operator for Northwest Airlines in the thirties. I hope to hear from you and get together...73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
SKCC #22T

-----Original Message-----
From: John Barrows <needhame1@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Mon, 12 Nov 2007 7:50 pm
Subject: [cw_bugs] New member

Hi...

My name is John Barrows, Helena, Montana, KD7WYW. Not an active ham but very interested in telegraph keys, including "bugs". I am a frequent demonstrator for land line telegraph, and include elements of early radio telegraph when appropriate. I have a small collection of bugs and keys. I have only had a radio license a few years, but began work on the NOrthern Pacific Ry in 1963 as a telegrapher in American Morse and worked for a number of years.

Looking forward to follow the threads on keys, etc.

John Barrows, KD7WYW
American Morse Sine - "BA"

---
Be a better pen pal.
Text or chat with friends inside Yahoo! Mail. See how. <http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/>http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

Yahoo! Groups Links

mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com

---
Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free
<http://o.aolcdn.com/cdn.webmail.aol.com/mailtour/aol/en-us/index.htm?ncid=AOLAOF00020000000970>AOL
Mail!

# 727. Re: [cw_bugs] New member

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 13:29:25 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 392  Message: 727

At 19:50 11/12/2007, John Barrows wrote:

>Hi...
>
>My name is John Barrows, Helena, Montana, KD7WYW. Not

Hey all, John's email address is John Barrows
<barrowsjohn@...> -- I guess Eudora tore it up here.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 728. RE: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-05 12:28:18 UTC
From: Meir WF2U
Topic: 710  Message: 728

Steve,

My first bug was the "coffin" bug, I bought it in 1965. It was much cheaper than the Vibroplex and I could afford it. A few years later I got my first Vibroplex and I donated the "coffin" to a local ham club.
A few years ago I bought new, still in the box "coffin" bug on ebay just for nostalgic reasons and I use it once in a while.
It's an OK key, but it's not my favorite bug (neither are any of the Vibroplex models I have).

73, Meir WF2U
Landrum, SC

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of n6vl
Sent: Sunday, November 04, 2007 11:52 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

I got a Japanese coffin bug off ebay. This one isn't labeled other than "Japan" on the bottom. I think the Hi-Mound BK-100 and the Skillman, are the same bug. Whatever one this is, it looks just like the BK-100 shown on Marshall's web site in the adjustments section.

That said, the coffin bug doesn't feel like any bug I've tried to date. All my other bugs are Vibroplexes. I find the coffin bug very smooth and easy to use. I was able to add a second 1/2 oz flat weight to it, which it gets down to about 16 wpm, right in my speed range. I immediately noticed I could send much faster and easier than with my 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug til now. I think some of it is due to the single flat paddle. I found it easier to send on the Vibroplex, if I didn't use the knob and used the single paddle. Perhaps that explains my ease with the coffin bug.

The coffin bug does have some draw backs. I have to remove the clear top cover to change the speed. And I have to loosen the arm, at the pivot, to add or remove a weight. On the plus side, it doesn't move around, even though the rubber feet are hardened, and I'm not using a shelf liner pad.

I also got a Johnson Speed-X 114-520, off ebay. It is not in as good condition. I've been so captivated by the coffin bug, I haven't tried the Speed-X yet. It needs cleaning up first.

Does anyone here have a coffin bug or ever tried one? I am surprised it isn't more popular. It seems to self correct some of the sending

problems I've struggled with, like the letter U. I can't vouche for it at normal bug speeds, like 20 wpm and above. But it did seem easier for me to send at those speeds.

The photo is posted at http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/view/b973?b=1.

73,

Steve N6VL

Yahoo! Groups Links

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.21/1109 - Release Date: 11/4/2007 11:05 AM

No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.21/1109 - Release Date: 11/4/2007 11:05 AM

# 729. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 15:32:13 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 710  Message: 729

Meir,

I happen to respect your taste in keys - especially straight keys - those you love are the same as I love!

I agree with you on the coffin bugs. In addition, I always found them terribly difficult to adjust to sound sweet.

Regarding Vibroplex, I have to say that I prefer those made in the 1940s vintage - they play very well. Second to that, their bugs up until about 1970 seem to be very good. I would assume that the decline in wire telegraphy that saw the good fortunes of J.H. Bunnell and Vibroplex caused concern at Vibroplex and that concern was evidenced by declining quality of their instruments. The Albright family who had owned the company for many years, probably saw their fortunes were going to change, and sold the company to John LaHiff their long time mechanical engineer about 1965, then John passed away and his family sold the company to Peter Garsoe an investor (non telegrapher) about 1979. I believe Bunnell whose keys and sounders, peg boards, etc. were the main stay of telegraph stations in North and South America had little or no "radio" market and closed its doors - yet the corporation remains to sell parts and a re-issue of their tiny key on board which had been given as a commemerative gift of recognition for years.

With Peter Garsoe the new owner of Vibroplex came changes - the LaHiff mainspring was taken out of the Presentation, the trunnion height adjustment on the main lever was discontinued which makes re-adjusting to make the contacts align more difficult - although it can be done with the bottom trunnion screw for a small amount and if not, a rubber mallet and vice to move the pressure fitted main lever.

Why the reason in quality? I supose it is because of the way the keys play. I trace most of the problem to the new practice of plating the mainspring. This makes the swing stiffer which makes the energy in the swing lesser, and the speed of the swing higher.

So Meir, what is your favorite bug?

I like my 1940-45 Vibroplex (and perhaps older), my 1940s McElroy bugs best. Second place are the Vibroplex bugs up to the 1970s.

73

DR

David, N1EA
=30=

On 11/5/07, Meir WF2U <wf2u@...> wrote:
> Steve,
>
> My first bug was the "coffin" bug, I bought it in 1965. It was much cheaper
> than the Vibroplex and I could afford it. A few years later I got my first
> Vibroplex and I donated the "coffin" to a local ham club.
> A few years ago I bought new, still in the box "coffin" bug on ebay just for
> nostalgic reasons and I use it once in a while.
> It's an OK key, but it's not my favorite bug (neither are any of the
> Vibroplex models I have).
>
> 73, Meir WF2U
> Landrum, SC
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of
> n6vl
> Sent: Sunday, November 04, 2007 11:52 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug
>
> I got a Japanese coffin bug off ebay. This one isn't labeled other
> than "Japan" on the bottom. I think the Hi-Mound BK-100 and the
> Skillman, are the same bug. Whatever one this is, it looks just like
> the BK-100 shown on Marshall's web site in the adjustments section.
>
> That said, the coffin bug doesn't feel like any bug I've tried to
> date. All my other bugs are Vibroplexes. I find the coffin bug very
> smooth and easy to use. I was able to add a second 1/2 oz flat weight
> to it, which it gets down to about 16 wpm, right in my speed range. I
> immediately noticed I could send much faster and easier than with my
> 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug til now. I think some of it is due
> to the single flat paddle. I found it easier to send on the
> Vibroplex, if I didn't use the knob and used the single paddle.
> Perhaps that explains my ease with the coffin bug.
>
> The coffin bug does have some draw backs. I have to remove the clear
> top cover to change the speed. And I have to loosen the arm, at the
> pivot, to add or remove a weight. On the plus side, it doesn't move
> around, even though the rubber feet are hardened, and I'm not using a
> shelf liner pad.
>
> I also got a Johnson Speed-X 114-520, off ebay. It is not in as good
> condition. I've been so captivated by the coffin bug, I haven't tried
> the Speed-X yet. It needs cleaning up first.
>

> Does anyone here have a coffin bug or ever tried one? I am surprised
> it isn't more popular. It seems to self correct some of the sending
> problems I've struggled with, like the letter U. I can't vouche for
> it at normal bug speeds, like 20 wpm and above. But it did seem
> easier for me to send at those speeds.
>
> The photo is posted at
> http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/view/b973?b=1.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
> No virus found in this incoming message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.
> Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.21/1109 - Release Date: 11/4/2007
> 11:05 AM
>
>
> No virus found in this outgoing message.
> Checked by AVG Free Edition.
> Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.15.21/1109 - Release Date: 11/4/2007
> 11:05 AM
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 730. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 16:13:42 UTC
From: wf2u@starband.net
Topic: 710  Message: 730

David,

The Vibroplex Deluxe Original I got in 1969 - used, a couple of years old then - is still with me and used regularly. I also have (all post WW2 with the NY address) a black and a gray Lighning Bug and a black Original. I also have a Lionel J-36 military bug. It's about the same in action and the level of my preference as the Vibroplex bunch.
Then came the Telegraph Apparatus "hole in the wall" bug about a year ago or so, and immediately it became the number one key in my preference.
As you know, McElroy was involved with that company, so it's still a McElroy key... I'd like to add a McElroy brand key to my collection eventually.
A few months ago I bought a Speed-X bug at a hamfest, and i fell in love with it... It has an incredible speed range without any external gadgets.
So now I have the TAC key set for high speed (it's much better at high speeds and smoother than the Vibroplexes), and the Speed-X set for low speed at my main "modern" operating position.
My WW2 vintage US Navy station (RBB-2, RBC-2 and RAL-6 receivers, TCM-2 transmitter) is set up with the J-36 key.
The 1944 vintage Victory ship radio console (Federal FT102 with the MacKay 167-BY transmitter and the RMCA AR-8506B receiver has the original MacKay key mounted on it.
I try to keep the key types in line with the vintage and model of my vintage radios...

73, Meir WF2U
Landrum, SC

> Meir,
>
> I happen to respect your taste in keys - especially straight keys -
> those you love are the same as I love!
>
> I agree with you on the coffin bugs. In addition, I always found them
> terribly difficult to adjust to sound sweet.
>
> Regarding Vibroplex, I have to say that I prefer those made in the 1940s
> vintage - they play very well. Second to that, their bugs up until
> about 1970 seem to be very good. I would assume that the
> decline in wire telegraphy that saw the good fortunes of J.H. Bunnell
> and Vibroplex caused concern at Vibroplex and that concern was
> evidenced by declining quality of their instruments. The Albright
> family who had owned the company for many years, probably saw their
> fortunes were going to change, and sold the company to John LaHiff their
> long time mechanical engineer about 1965, then John passed away and his
> family sold the company to Peter Garsoe an investor (non

> telegrapher) about 1979. I believe Bunnell whose keys and sounders, peg
> boards, etc. were the main stay of telegraph stations in North and South
> America had little or no "radio" market and closed its doors - yet the
> corporation remains to sell parts and a re-issue of their tiny key on
> board which had been given as a commemerative gift of
> recognition for years.
>
> With Peter Garsoe the new owner of Vibroplex came changes - the LaHiff
> mainspring was taken out of the Presentation, the trunnion height
> adjustment on the main lever was discontinued which makes re-adjusting
> to make the contacts align more difficult - although it can be done with
> the bottom trunnion screw for a small amount and if not, a rubber mallet
> and vice to move the pressure fitted main lever.
>
> Why the reason in quality? I supose it is because of the way the keys
> play. I trace most of the problem to the new practice of plating the
> mainspring. This makes the swing stiffer which makes the energy in the
> swing lesser, and the speed of the swing higher.
>
> So Meir, what is your favorite bug?
>
> I like my 1940-45 Vibroplex (and perhaps older), my 1940s McElroy bugs
> best. Second place are the Vibroplex bugs up to the 1970s.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David, N1EA
> =30=
>
>
> On 11/5/07, Meir WF2U <wf2u@...> wrote:
>> Steve,
>>
>> My first bug was the "coffin" bug, I bought it in 1965. It was much
>> cheaper than the Vibroplex and I could afford it. A few years later I
>> got my first Vibroplex and I donated the "coffin" to a local ham
>> club.
>> A few years ago I bought new, still in the box "coffin" bug on ebay
>> just for nostalgic reasons and I use it once in a while.
>> It's an OK key, but it's not my favorite bug (neither are any of the
>> Vibroplex models I have).
>>
>> 73, Meir WF2U
>> Landrum, SC

# 731. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 18:46:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 710  Message: 731
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 732. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 19:14:07 UTC
From: wf2u@starband.net
Topic: 710  Message: 732

David,

My TACo bug mechanism pivot support is chrome with black base. I think it's called "hole in the wall" because the arm support pivot is in a block with a big round hole as opposed to the bridge or arch like structure a la McElroy and Vibroplex...

The teardrop McElroy is cool looking! I like the old T handle McElroy looks.

Talking about the teardrop - a friend of mine got an Eddystone teardrop bug recently. It is really Art Deco!

73, Meir WF2U
Landrum, SC

> WF2U de N1EA
>
> I agree with what you say 100%. I believe (haven't measured them) that
> the Telegraph Apparatus Company (TACo) bugs built by McElroy in Chicago
> and the Speed-X bugs have a larger vibrator.
>
> In any case, I agree they send better. If I had to have one bug, it
> probably would be the chromed "hole in the wall" bug by TACo as I like
> the chrome!
>
> Those bugs have a big hole in the base - probably for a big bolt to hold
> them down! Thus the name.
>
> I have a McElroy "Teardrop bug" model S600 which has a wide speed range
> and is a ballerina at 50 wpm. It handles divinely at high speeds as
> most (if not all) McElroy bugs do. I love the art deco design and I
> also like the McElroy Deluxe bug of 1939 with the Marbelite finish - a
> good sender, but the Teardrop bug is better or at least wears better
> makeup and has much better curves. (;-0)
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> ## ## ## ######### ###
> ### ## ##### ## ## ##
> ##### ## ## ## ## ##
> ## ## ## ## ####### ## ##
> ## ##### ## ## ##########
> ## #### ## ## ## ##
> ## ## ####### ######### ## ##

>
> On 11/13/07, wf2u@... <wf2u@...> wrote:
>> David,

# 733. Re: Hank

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-13 22:06:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 733  Message: 733
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 734. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-14 16:05:56 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 710  Message: 734

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> I agree with you on the coffin bugs. In addition, I always found them
> terribly difficult to adjust to sound sweet.
>

Wow David!

I find my coffin bug to be very easy to adjust.

That said, I've kind of torn betweent the coffin bug and my 1953 Presentation. The latter really does feel smooth. I am thinking of putting the Vibroplex conversion paddles on my Presentation. The lesson I've learned from the coffin bug is that prefer two fingers pieces, rather than the one finger piece and knob of the Vibroplex bugs.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 735. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-14 16:17:38 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 710  Message: 735

Steve,
I think you'll find, as your speed on the bug increases, why they
used a thumb paddle and knob on the Vibroplex. The separation
between your thumb and forefinger really does matter.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@> wrote:
> > I agree with you on the coffin bugs. In addition, I always found
them
> > terribly difficult to adjust to sound sweet.
> >
>
> Wow David!
>
> I find my coffin bug to be very easy to adjust.
>
> That said, I've kind of torn betweent the coffin bug and my 1953
> Presentation. The latter really does feel smooth. I am thinking of
> putting the Vibroplex conversion paddles on my Presentation. The
lesson
> I've learned from the coffin bug is that prefer two fingers pieces,
> rather than the one finger piece and knob of the Vibroplex bugs.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 736. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-14 16:51:01 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 710  Message: 736

Have you replaced the ten 1/16 inch diameter ball bearings in the
bug?

Eric

On Wed, 14 Nov 2007, n6vl wrote:

> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>> I agree with you on the coffin bugs. In addition, I always found them
>> terribly difficult to adjust to sound sweet.
>>
>
> Wow David!
>
> I find my coffin bug to be very easy to adjust.
>
(snip)

# 737. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-15 02:35:04 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 710  Message: 737

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Steve,
> I think you'll find, as your speed on the bug increases, why they
> used a thumb paddle and knob on the Vibroplex. The separation
> between your thumb and forefinger really does matter.
> 73, Milt k4oso

I'll keep that in mind, Milt. At my sub-light speeds, it has the
opposite effect.

73,

Steve N6VL

# 738. Novemebr NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-20 03:04:56 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 738  Message: 738

This Wednesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Thursday November 22nd, 0030-0230 UTC
(Remember that's Wednesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EDT, 7:30 - 9:30 CDT, 6:30 - 8:30 MDT and 5:30 - 7:30 PDT.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
Our special award this month goes to the one who has the highest score and uses a homebrew straight key. If a 1st or 2nd place certificate winner also qualifies for winning the SA, the SA goes to the next highest scorer. That is because we want as many members as possible to receive one of our certificates. You must indicate in your report if you are applying for the SA, and include a picture of your straight key.

Autologger SA info: To be eligible for the SA, you must select Yes in the 'Eligible for the Special Award.....' box. Nothing need be put in the 'Special Award info.....' box. You will have to submit your key picture in a separate email.

Prize:
Continuing this month we are giving away a set of CD's to one participant according to the following rules:

1. The participant meeting the requirements below and posting the highest score will be the winner of a set of CD's in the following months: July, August, September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May.
A. Requirements: The participant must be a NAQCC member and can not have won a CD set previously.
B. If the highest scorer does not meet the requirements, then the CD set winner will be the next highest scorer who does meet the requirements.

2. Twice a year - in the December and June sprints, the winner will be a participant drawn at random who meets the requirements in 1A and who makes at least 5 QSO's in the sprint.

3. Club Officers (WY3H (ex-KB3LFC), K3WWP, W2LJ, K5DUZ, KD2MX) are not eligible.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Wednesday night's sprint. To join the NAQCC, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on November 28th, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

NEW! NEW! NEW!
Be sure to use the new NAQCC Sprint Autologger feature! Please visit http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/sprintlog.html after the Sprint to send in your entry!

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200711.html

# 739. Re: [BrassPounders] Keyer/bug combination

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-20 16:05:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 739  Message: 739

At 08:50 11/20/2007, stevehayward2002 wrote:
>Hi,
>Is there any way a vibroplex bug could be used in combination with a
>memory keyer?
>Please advise.
>Thanks,
>Steve

If you use the bug to program the keyer, and then once
that's done if you wire them in parallel, they should work. The
bug/key/whatever acts as a simple SPST switch, and any number of
these devices can be used in parallel -- you just take your pick of
which one to send with at any one time. For the last Field Day, I
had three bugs and a straight key all wired together in parallel and
mounted on a plastic cutting board. Worked fine.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 740. Re: [skcc] Re: nervous .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-24 14:09:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 740  Message: 740

At 04:28 11/24/2007, Bill wrote:
>Once I opened up my
>dit gap and stop real wide, WOW I had full control. From that point
>on, I feel as comfortable sending with my bug as I do with any other key.

I have a WW2 Lionel J-36 that was giving me trouble. I had
the feeling that the pendulum was just incredibly stiff, but one day
I opened up the gap as Bill says above, and it took off really
nicely. These devices need a lot of room to work since the work with
a lot of action. They're not like a straight key at all in this regard.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 741. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Re: nervous .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-24 14:28:43 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 740  Message: 741

One thing that has destroyed bugs is the paddle. Since the paddles are only a switch and the keyer does "all the work" - they can be adjusted to a hair's width.

A bug depends on motion of the pendulum. I tell people when setting up a bug to fully back off all the adjustments, and adjust until the bug doesn't sound as good as it just did, then go back to that sweet setting.

You will notice that at 35 wpm and higher you'll need a wee bit closer adjustment (or fast reflexes, or a dual lever key) to make the transition from dot to dash smoothly.

SLOW bug users are advised to adjust with the bug fullly backed out - watch for good pendulum action, observe good "flat against flat" contact contacting, proper damper action after sending dots.

73

Daviid N1EA
=30=
On 11/24/07, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> At 04:28 11/24/2007, Bill wrote:
> >Once I opened up my
> >dit gap and stop real wide, WOW I had full control. From that point
> >on, I feel as comfortable sending with my bug as I do with any other key.
>
> I have a WW2 Lionel J-36 that was giving me trouble. I had
> the feeling that the pendulum was just incredibly stiff, but one day
> I opened up the gap as Bill says above, and it took off really
> nicely. These devices need a lot of room to work since the work with
> a lot of action. They're not like a straight key at all in this regard.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links

>
>
>
>

# 742. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-25 11:19:54 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 710  Message: 742

Did these Skillman/BK-100 type bugs only come with one size weight?
Mine seems very small and the bug is real fast. I expected it to be
much slower than my AnnieBug, but its faster.
Just curious.
Bill NT9K..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> --- In cw_bugs@...m, "k4oso" <k4oso@> wrote:
> >
> > Steve,
> > I think you'll find, as your speed on the bug increases, why they
> > used a thumb paddle and knob on the Vibroplex. The separation
> > between your thumb and forefinger really does matter.
> > 73, Milt k4oso
>
> I'll keep that in mind, Milt. At my sub-light speeds, it has the
> opposite effect.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 743. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-25 14:47:46 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 710  Message: 743

There is much more to the speed adjustment that just the weight on the vibrator. The distance the pendulum has to cover also has a great effect.

73

David N1EA

On 11/25/07, Bill <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
> Did these Skillman/BK-100 type bugs only come with one size weight?
> Mine seems very small and the bug is real fast. I expected it to be
> much slower than my AnnieBug, but its faster.
> Just curious.
> Bill NT9K..
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@> wrote:
> > >
> > > Steve,
> > > I think you'll find, as your speed on the bug increases, why they
> > > used a thumb paddle and knob on the Vibroplex. The separation
> > > between your thumb and forefinger really does matter.
> > > 73, Milt k4oso
> >
> > I'll keep that in mind, Milt. At my sub-light speeds, it has the
> > opposite effect.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Steve N6VL
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 744. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-26 02:35:24 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 710  Message: 744

Bill,

You can use Vibroplex flat weights.

73,

Steve N6VL

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
>
> Did these Skillman/BK-100 type bugs only come with one size weight?
> Mine seems very small and the bug is real fast. I expected it to be
> much slower than my AnnieBug, but its faster.
> Just curious.
> Bill NT9K..
>

# 745. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-26 10:28:28 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 710  Message: 745

Thanks guys, but I am not looking for more weight or to slow mine down. I just want to know if these bugs and the varieties came with only 1 size weight.
Thanks, Bill NT9K..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Bill,
>
> You can use Vibroplex flat weights.
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <nt9k_skcc@> wrote:
> >
> > Did these Skillman/BK-100 type bugs only come with one size weight?
> > Mine seems very small and the bug is real fast. I expected it to be
> > much slower than my AnnieBug, but its faster.
> > Just curious.
> > Bill NT9K..
> >
>

# 746. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-26 15:38:01 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 710  Message: 746

Bill,

I believe these bugs came with only one weight. I believe all bugs that had square weights came with one weight. The exceptions were the round weight models of Vibroplex and McElroy - they were supplied with TWO small round weights for greater speed range.

I suspect - if your bug runs too fast, that it is adjusted as a new bug user who is used to electronic keyers and paddles might, or that the operator who owned it was a real QRQ operator.

You haven't specified a slow speed for the pendulum, so I am guessing that you are trying to say the bug won't slow down to 16 wpm or so which was the typical low range of those coffin bugs.

First check the mainspring of the bug - it should be around 0.013 to 0.017 inches thick. Thicker mainsprings send with less vigor and send slower.at "normal" spacing bug because they don't have vigor, the operator is forced to make the travel of the lever less, which increases the speed of the pendulum.

A bug with a 0.013 mainspring will have a lot of vigor and a great speed range.

If you find the mainspring is 0.017 or greater, inspect for signs that the spring has been replaced by a hack machinest who didn't understand that he needed the correct spring to have the bug work. It has happened to me frequently.

If the key is old and a bit dirty I advise owners to do the next paragraph - because the coffin bug is enclosed this probably isn't needed.

I tell people when they get a new bug to completely disassemble it - and make a mechanical drawing of it as they go. It is easy to miss washers, so look well and try to move washers from posts as they often stick. Often a new user puts the insulating washers on the wrong side and the bug won't work.

Polish silver contacts with very fine rouge paper until bright. There are four contacts on a bug.

Clean, degrease, with ammonia all parts with detergent, then clear water rinse. Put all parts on paper towels and into an old toaster oven set at 140 degrees for three hours to dry.

As the Coffin bug also has a race of ball bearings, this would be time consuming - so just skip to adjustment.

Adjustment - loosen up bug completely, set pivot of trunnion so that it doesn't wobble but doesn't bind, then adjust damper set limit adjustment for proper action. Adjust "downward" all adjustments until the vibrator starts to loose its vigor, then back up untill it still has vigor.

There are files in the "Files" section of this group - about bug adjustment and cleaning.

73

David N1EA
=30=

On 11/26/07, Bill <nt9k_skcc@...> wrote:
> Thanks guys, but I am not looking for more weight or to slow mine
> down. I just want to know if these bugs and the varieties came with
> only 1 size weight.
> Thanks, Bill NT9K..
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
> >
> > Bill,
> >
> > You can use Vibroplex flat weights.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Steve N6VL
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <nt9k_skcc@> wrote:
> > >
> > > Did these Skillman/BK-100 type bugs only come with one size weight?
> > > Mine seems very small and the bug is real fast. I expected it to be
> > > much slower than my AnnieBug, but its faster.
> > > Just curious.
> > > Bill NT9K..
> > >
> >
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 747. UNSUBSCRIBE PLEASE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-26 22:36:04 UTC
From: greatestcrimefighter
Topic: 747  Message: 747

NO TIME RIGHT NOW

# 748. Re: Coffin bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-28 17:22:12 UTC
From: aa1ll
Topic: 710  Message: 748

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, <wf2u@...> wrote:
>
> David,
...../SNIP//....
> Then came the Telegraph Apparatus "hole in the wall" bug about a
year ago
> or so, and immediately it became the number one key in my preference.
> As you know, McElroy was involved with that company, so it's still a
> McElroy key... I'd like to add a McElroy brand key to my collection
> eventually.
> A few months ago I bought a Speed-X bug at a hamfest, and i fell in love
> with it... It has an incredible speed range without any external
gadgets.
> So now I have the TAC key set for high speed (it's much better at high
> speeds and smoother than the Vibroplexes), and the Speed-X set for low
> speed at my main "modern" operating position.....

.../// snip///

Interesting--I also also have a TACO CP-510, a SPEED-X 501, a "Coffin key" (HI-MOUND BK-100 design), a Lionel J-36, and of course several Vibroplexes, mostly 50s vintage. I agree, The TACO hole in the wall key is the best, as it has a solid, snappy, smooth feel to it. The 'Coffin' has a kind of plastic feel to it and the clattering noise it makes is really annoying. Any way to deaden that noise? I also have trouble dealing with the paddle which is actually like the SPEED-X (flat, no knob). I actually ended up putting a straight key knob on the left side of the paddle of the SPEED-X, I hope this doesn't offend any purists....The SPEED-X is also really fun to use.

73, Paul, AA1LL
Mason, NH
http://www.qsl.net/aa1ll

# 749. Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 16:49:20 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 749  Message: 749

Well -- anybody want to become a "serious" collector, in one
easy step? Well, as "serious" as one can be without the thrill of
the hunt, the find, the chase...

All it takes is a bunch of dollars!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=110196621210

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 750. Re: [cw_bugs] Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 16:53:37 UTC
From: BPCI@aol.com
Topic: 749  Message: 750

All it takes is a bunch of dollars!

Go for it, Earl...

Ci Jones, WU7R

-----Original Message-----
From: Earl Needham <needhame1@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thu, 29 Nov 2007 9:49 am
Subject: [cw_bugs] Gee...

Well -- anybody want to become a "serious" collector, in one
easy step? Well, as "serious" as one can be without the thrill of
the hunt, the find, the chase...

All it takes is a bunch of dollars!

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=110196621210

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
More new features than ever. Check out the new AOL Mail ! - http://o.aolcdn.com/cdn.webmai
l.aol.com/mailtour/aol/en-us/text.htm?ncid=aolcmp00050000000003

# 751. Re: [cw_bugs] Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 17:18:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 749  Message: 751

At 09:53 11/29/2007, BPCI@... wrote:

>All it takes is a bunch of dollars!
>
>
>Go for it, Earl...
>
>Ci Jones, WU7R

Sorry, the house, wife, kids, and car aren't for sale! <G>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 752. Re: [cw_bugs] Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 20:04:38 UTC
From: jess gypin
Topic: 749  Message: 752
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 753. Re: Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 20:39:00 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 749  Message: 753

It'll interesting to see the winning bid. It won't be mine, however. I use a FlameProof and a VizBug - I don't collect. But, I do enjoy seeing the collections that others have.

Also, those keys looked a little rough to me. Many keys have been through my station over the years and most looked nicer than those "collectables."

# 754. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-29 23:37:55 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 749  Message: 754

At 13:39 11/29/2007, Bill wrote:
>It'll interesting to see the winning bid. It won't be mine, however.

No bids yet, they might not sell.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 755. hole-in-the-wall

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-30 00:58:40 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 755  Message: 755

If Paul says the Hole-in-the-wall is the best, better listen to him. He has, and has had for fifty years, the best bug fist on the planet.

73,

Fd kt5x

# 756. Re: [cw_bugs] hole-in-the-wall

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-30 02:13:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 755  Message: 756
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 757. Re: Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-30 14:03:00 UTC
From: Randy Ott
Topic: 749  Message: 757

This is the 4th time this collection has been listed. It started out
with a $2000 starting bid then it went to $1800, $1600, and now $1310.

I don't think he has ever had a bid in all 4 tries.

Randy

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 13:39 11/29/2007, Bill wrote:
> >It'll interesting to see the winning bid. It won't be mine, however.
>
> No bids yet, they might not sell.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>

# 758. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-30 14:11:39 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 749  Message: 758

At 07:03 11/30/2007, Randy Ott wrote:

>This is the 4th time this collection has been listed. It started out
>with a $2000 starting bid then it went to $1800, $1600, and now $1310.
>
>I don't think he has ever had a bid in all 4 tries.
>
>Randy

Sounds like he's trying to keep them all together, or maybe
he thinks 20 different auctions would be too much trouble. There are
a couple I'd like to have on my shelf, but I don't think I'd pay $100
for any one of them.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 759. Subject unrelated-desirable letter combination vanity 6 land 1x2 call available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-11-30 16:39:42 UTC
From: P Rockwell
Topic: 759  Message: 759

QST,

Hate to see my research go to waste. Left over fallback not-so-far discovered 1x2 call from spouses (wz7z) successful climb up the ladder. Meets the FCC waiting period for silent key-available now call. Will FAX evidence to some deserving amateur. CONTACT ME IN PRIVATE PLEASE! How it works http://www.ae7q.com/text/SilentKey.html. I will give (FAX) evidence to "first" and "genuine sincere" amateur responding by email using my ARRL address.

I get nothing and expect nothing.

Craig
mailto:kq6i@...?subject=silentKey
peace, long life and good DX

# 760. re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-01 15:20:18 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 760  Message: 760

Caspercoin?;

some years ago, he was out bidding (over-paying) everyone on essentially common (not particularly collectible) bugs, ammassing a dull collection. I think he is a university museum curator. In addition, knowing some of the bugs he bought, I know he did a lot of questionable cleaning and parts mix and matching, surprising for a curator sort. No collector would want his collection. Probably no none collector would want to buy a whole collection. Makes the way he is selling kinda odd...

On another subject entirely... Six months ago i bought a tiny switching power supply by Gamma Research, the HPS-1a. This thing is only 1 inch x 3 inch x 5 inch and weighs about one pound. it is a switcher of course, but has super-capacitors that act like batteries, such that while it is a 5 amp supply, it can for brief periods support up to 22 amp. this means in SSB and CW (at faster than 10 wpm) it will handle a 100 watt transciever.

The unit i received had two problems. First, there was a whine in the headfones when recharging, and second, the tiny fan had something worng with it and buzzed.

The maker, K3GQ, a retired power supply engineer, provided a fix for the first, changing the value of a single resisotr in the cotrol loop of the switcher, and a replacement fan which i installed last night.

both of the problems I had are no longer issues in supplied units.

now, this tiny supply is silent in the headfones, and no switcher noise that i can discern, and silent in operation. it replaces a 30 pound two cubic foot Astron linear supply just fine. people think of it as their portable supply, but I am using it in base station service and it runs cool, quiet, and simple. (Obviously, i am just sharing an experience, i have no connection whatever with the maker)

73, Fd kt5x

# 761. New Member Intro

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-02 15:58:50 UTC
From: kb3omj
Topic: 761  Message: 761

It looks like I am the new kid on the block so permit me tell the group a little about myself and why I joined this group.

I am relatively a new ham obtaining my Technician license in January of this year and my General ticket in April. I was driven to get the CW CSCE before the code requirement was abandoned, and I managed to achieve that goal. I am very passionate about CW and it comprises 98% of my communication with other ops.

My XYL presented me with a Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug about three days ago, and I am thrilled! I have always wanted a bug and this one sure is a beauty. I am determined to hopefully master this equipment one of these days, and when I saw that this Yahoo group was available I jumped at the chance to join. I feel that with the help from this group and my Elmer - Bill Crosier NT9K - I just may be able to learn how to send good code with this gorgeous new bug!

73

Dick Williams KB3OMJ
SKCC #3218
FISTS #13365

# 762. New Guy .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-02 16:13:52 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 762  Message: 762

Hi All !!!

I'm new to the group ..... I'm from Ogdensburg , NY wayyyyy up by the Canada border. Been a ham since 1989 and work CW 99% of the time. I enjoy QRP and milliwatting with WAC , WAS and DXCC in both. Started out on CW with my K1EL K-20 keyboard and then joined FISTS and SKCC with my Bendix MT-11B Naval Flameprrof Key. My wonderful wife has gotten me a Vibroplex 100th Year Bug for Christmas so I'll be doing my best to learn it !! I enjoy DXing and contesting both QRP and milliwatting and find that CW is the only way to go in both endevors. Bill , NT9K and Pete , W5PEH and a host of others from the SKCC Group have benn very helpful even before I have tried my bug !!!

Good to be a part of another group preserving the honored tradition of CW in our amatuer radio service !!!!!!

73

George Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC # 2836T
FISTS # 12912

# 763. Lionel question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-02 19:03:38 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 762  Message: 763

I'm in the 18-wheeler today, just coming out of Ft Worth and
thought I'd hook up the Lionel for the next 200+ miles across the
Texas wilderness -- but trying to slow this bad boy down is tough!

I tried opening up the "gap", and the weight is out as far
as possible, but it doesn't seem to help much. As well, the pivot is
a little tight, so I need to back off the adjustment there a little.

What makes the pendulum swing back when you release the
"handle"??? This one does OK, but I'll be darned if I see a return spring!

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 764. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-02 20:22:42 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 762  Message: 764
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 765. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-03 03:33:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 762  Message: 765

At 13:22 12/2/2007, David Ring wrote:
>The return spring should be on the left side of the frame - you have
>two adjustment screws - the top one fits into a spring which is
>shaped like a coil, at the end of the coil, the spring slips into a
>hole on the mainspring. At the center of the coil of the spring, a
>little nipple at the end of the adjustment screw fits in.

Ah! Found it -- it is so mis-shapen that I thought it was
simply a wire to electrically connect parts together -- I guess
AZRoadrunners struck again...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 766. Re: [cw_bugs] Lionel question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-03 03:33:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 762  Message: 766

At 13:22 12/2/2007, David Ring wrote:
>The return spring should be on the left side of the frame - you have
>two adjustment screws - the top one fits into a spring which is
>shaped like a coil, at the end of the coil, the spring slips into a
>hole on the mainspring. At the center of the coil of the spring, a
>little nipple at the end of the adjustment screw fits in.

Ah! Found it -- it is so mis-shapen that I thought it was
simply a wire to electrically connect parts together -- I guess
AZRoadrunners struck again...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 767. Re: [cw_bugs] New Guy .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-03 04:37:55 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 762  Message: 767

At 08:58 12/2/2007, kb3omj wrote:
>My XYL presented me with a Vibroplex 100th Anniversary bug about three
>days ago, and I am thrilled!

At 09:13 12/2/2007, George Osier wrote:
>My wonderful wife has gotten me a Vibroplex 100th Year
>Bug for Christmas so I'll be doing my best to learn it !!

You guys gotta tell me your secret! <G>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 768. Interesting bug!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-05 18:34:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 768  Message: 768

<http://oh6dc.cw.googlepages.com/homemadebug>

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 769. Re: [cw_bugs] Interesting bug!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-05 18:52:57 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 768  Message: 769
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 770. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Gee...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-09 21:00:42 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 749  Message: 770

At 16:37 11/29/2007, Earl Needham wrote:
>At 13:39 11/29/2007, Bill wrote:
> >It'll interesting to see the winning bid. It won't be mine, however.
>
>No bids yet, they might not sell.

Looks like they didn't get any bids at all.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 771. December NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-11 02:28:42 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 771  Message: 771

This Tuesday evening, the North American QRP CW Club will be holding its monthly sprint.

Here are the particulars:

Date and time:
Wednesday December 13th, 0130-0330 UTC
(Remember that's Tuesday evening here in the USA) That's 8:30 - 10:30 EST, 7:30 - 9:30 CST, 6:30 - 8:30 MST and 5:30 - 7:30 PST.

Bands - Frequencies:
80M - 3555-3565 kHz (Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40M - 7039-7050 kHz (Avoid W1AW on 7047.5 kHz).
20M - 14059-14065 kHz. General:
A particular station may be worked once on each band. Operate CW only.
All licensed amateurs are invited to participate, but only those operating QRP (5 watts or less) are eligible for awards.

Call: CQ NA

Exchange:
RST - SPC (State Province or Country) - NAQCC Nr.
(non-Members substitute power level for NAQCC Nr., e.g. 5W, 1W, etc. Be sure to add the W.)

QSO Points:
QSO with a Member, 2 points.
QSO with a Non-member, 1 point.

Multipliers:
Each USA state
Each VE province
Each country except W/VE
All multipliers count only once in the contest.

Bonus:
If you use only a straight key for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 2.
If you use only a bug for the entire sprint, multiply your score by 1.5.
If you key with anything other than a straight key or bug, there is no bonus multiplier.

Categories:
SWA - simple wire antennas - for those using a simple wire antenna per NAQCC definition.
GAIN - gain antennas - for those using other than a simple wire antenna.

Special Award:
Our special award this month is a simple one. One certificate goes to the longest licensed ham and one to the most recently licensed. The year of your FIRST ham license is the determining factor. You need not have kept the license active continuously. You must also make at least 5 QSO's in the sprint to be considered for the SA.

Autologger SA info:
Eligible for the Special Award.....' box - Select Yes
Special Award info.....' box - Put the year of your first ham license

Prize:
Continuing this month we are giving away a set of CD's to one participant according to the following rules:

1. The participant meeting the requirements below and posting the highest score will be the winner of a set of CD's in the following months: July, August, September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May.
A. Requirements: The participant must be a NAQCC member and can not have won a CD set previously.
B. If the highest scorer does not meet the requirements, then the CD set winner will be the next highest scorer who does meet the requirements.

2. Twice a year - in the December and June sprints, the winner will be a participant drawn at random who meets the requirements in 1A and who makes at least 5 QSO's in the sprint.

3. Club Officers (WY3H (ex-KB3LFC), K3WWP, W2LJ, K5DUZ, KD2MX) are not eligible.

REMEMBER: You HAVE to be a NAQCC member to be eligible to win the CDs; and there's still plenty of time to join before Wednesday night's sprint. To join the NAQCC, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//joinup.html

Entry Deadline:
All entries must be RECEIVED before 2400Z on December 18th, 2007. So submit as soon as possible, especially regular mail entries.

NEW! NEW! NEW!
Be sure to use the new NAQCC Sprint Autologger feature! Please visit http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/sprintlog.html after the Sprint to send in your entry!

For further information, please visit:
http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200712.html

# 772. Lapel pin?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-14 17:58:11 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 772  Message: 772

Yep, I know -- the subject line looks off-topic. Maybe it isn't --

From time to time, I have seen lapel pins that look like
straight keys. Are there such that look like a bug? I'd like to have one.

Thanks,
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 773. SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 01:43:44 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 773  Message: 773

Fellow lovers of things radiotelegraphic: -

Everyone likes a good mystery. Here is one for you.

Before I heard this recording, I thought it might be a recording done by the AWA - Antique Wireless Association (of the USA) at one of their yearly meetings where all sorts of people bring spark, arc, early CW transmitters and receivers.

I've listened to the recording - but I am NOT going to tell you what I think YET. I want you to enjoy the mystery.

Supposedly this is a recording put on magnetic tape from an old Edison Dictaphone at Marconi station MCE Cape Race.

Is it real or is it fake?

If it is real, why?
If it is fake, why?

If you know positive information regarding this recording, please send to the group.

Here is the present location - which will be moved in a few hours because the other web site where the recordings are is not available to me from this location.

http://www.gis.net/~n1ea/SOS_MGY.ogg

Most programs - including Irfanview - can play ogg files which are quite small.

73

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
=30=

# 774. Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 05:47:29 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 773  Message: 774
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 775. Re: [BrassPounders] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 06:14:57 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 775  Message: 775

At 22:47 12/15/2007, David Ring wrote:

>Hello everyone. Some have had problems with ogg format, so I've
>just uploaded a mp3 file of the MGY SOS recording to:
>
><http://mikea.ath.cx/www.n1ea.coastalradio.org.uk/SOS_MGY.mp3>http://mikea.ath.cx/www.n1e
a.coastalradio.org.uk/SOS_MGY.mp3
>
>
>What do you think? Real or fake? - and why?

I'm thinking a modern reproduction, but it's just a weak
guess due to the speed. Keeping in mind that I never have operated a
SK much, the speed of the message seems awfully fast for a straight
key, and I'm not at all sure a bug was available on the Titanic.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 776. Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 06:37:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 773  Message: 776
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 777. Re: [skcc] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 07:22:59 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 777  Message: 777
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 778. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 09:36:14 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 777  Message: 778
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 779. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 15:39:35 UTC
From: w9ya@qrparci.net
Topic: 777  Message: 779

Interesting comments.

I, by chance, converted the recording to an mp3 with just enough bandwidth to accomplish a clean output. This of course removed the noise. The result was PERFECTLY timed code. i.e. It sounded machine generated.

Vy 73;

Bob
w9ya

> I have questions about this: The speed...im ok with a straight key, im
> sure there are some old timers who are exceptional at it, but if that
> was being sent with a straight key...wow! the dits were perfect, at
> least bug quality...im not so sure even the best telegrapher would be so
> perfectly consistent. He would have to have arms like Popeye! But im
> definately open to the possibility...so this one is plausible, but still
> questionable. The conditions...I agree with another poster who
> mentioned a lack of QSB or other atmospheric anomalies. Also plausible,
> but just how good were the front end receivers of the era...most boat
> anchor owners will tell you, the rx is the first to suffer on those old
> rigs, even the big ones like MCE. The recording...this one stands out
> more than others. I make a living recording things and i was wondering
> the most about this. The signal was solid, the recording was solid, the
> year was 1912...how good was A) the receiver, B) the recording
> equipment, and C) the luck of the op to stumble across this signal when
> no other ship was around and/or answering...enough to set up a recording
> device that could record that clearly and on such short notice. This is
> not only possible today, but easy...im not so sure it was all that easy
> in 1912, but again, i could be wrong. The significance...The sinking of
> the RMS Titanic was a HUGE deal. If someone had recorded the actual
> sinking, i would have to think that this would have been made public
> long ago, if for nothing else, the investigation of the White Star Lines
> operational practices...the SOS call would have been of immense
> importance.
> especially if it was recorded from a commercial station, this would have
> been huge for them. How many actual SOS recordings were floating around
> in 1912? The high profile of the sinking would also be motivation for
> making a replica years later (especially since all the movies that have
> been made since) and trying to pass it off as real...its a lot more
> exciting than say, the recording of a tanker sinking in 1973. This one
> would garner lots of attention for the person who first presented it,
> and sooner or later it would make its way to the ham radio community as
> it has, where it would face certain scrutiny...as it is. I am not
> buying it at first glance, but i truly like being wrong. If this ends up
> being proven to be the actual sinking then this is exciting stuff. But

> im going to have to stick with my gut feeling...its a fake. 73...Adam,
> N7YA
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "David Ring"
> To: brasspounders@yahoogroups.com, skcc@yahoogroups.com,
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Radio Officers &c"
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or
> Fake?
> Date: Sun, 16 Dec 2007 02:22:59 -0500
>
> Someone suggested that the recording was false because:
>
>
> The signal strength stayed the same throughout the transmission.
> Rarely is there propagation where there isn't some QSB noticeable
> (however faint) in a transmission of that length.
> Here is some more information:
>
> The frequency in use was 600 meters - the distance from Titanic to
> Cape Race Radio / MCE (using just the present location of Cape Race,
> Newfoundland as I don't know the exact QTH of MCE) is
>
> 366 statute miles, 318 nautical miles or 589 nautical miles. The
> bearing from Titanic/MGY was 339 degrees true.
>
> At such a distance, fading (QSB) was very rare except for a sudden
> ionospheric disturbance or aurora.
>
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
> --
> You Rock! Your E-Mail Should Too! Signup Now at Rock.com and get 250MB
> of Storage!
>
> http://webmail.rock.com/signup/

Liviu Librescu - ?n veci pomenirea lui.
(May his memory be eternal.)

# 780. Fw: Vintage Telegraph Key, Bussa 100

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-16 22:30:44 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 780  Message: 780

WARNING: I have absolutely NOTHING to do with this auction. A link has been put to my website without asking permission the presence of which might imply to some my association or support, and the message below was sent to me by I know not whom. As relatively unscrupulous as they seem, I would suspect shill behavior and who knows what else, and personally, would not bid on anything they had to sell.

73,

Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: Dick Myhre
To: kt5x@...
Sent: Sunday, December 16, 2007 1:46 PM
Subject: Vintage Telegraph Key, Bussa 100

---

Hi: eBay user sulivanpat suggested that I let you know of the sale now on that might interest you. Why not check it out at the URL below? Dick

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=300181590521

---
I am using the free version of SPAMfighter for private users.
It has removed 3489 spam emails to date.
Paying users do not have this message in their emails.
Try SPAMfighter for free now!

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.5.503 / Virus Database: 269.17.4/1187 - Release Date: 12/16/2007 11:36 AM

# 782. Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-22 18:49:00 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 773  Message: 782

Thanks for all the wonderful answers about the SOS recording of the Titanic.

There were only a few who thought it was real. Most thought it was false, some for the keying speed, some for other reasons which we will investigate later in this email.

Regarding the keying, many thought it was a Vibroplex, however two people reported that they could and can send with a straight key at that speed and that the keying in the recording was that of a straight key. I know some whom I've heard on the air - TG9ADM comes to mind - he is a young man - less than 20 years of age - and he sends with an Ameco straight key - also known as a Japanese JJ38 key. He can send 25 to 28 wpm. I've heard him.

The other objection to the sending is the shortness of the dashes. However, Phillips was a former wire telegrapher and they used a short dash - about 2:1 ratio to speed up the transmissions. Also I've found that when sending fast on a hand key -- "something" has to go to get the speed - it's either the spacing of the length of the code elements - mostly the dash.

In support of it being a fake were mentioned the "highly unlikely" possiblity of MCE having a Edison Dictaphone - even if they realized they had a "news story" and made a telegraph or telephone call - who are they going to call that has such a machine? This is Newfoundland - not New York City. However because of Newfoundland's significant geographic location with respect to Europe, it had significant telegraph coverage - if not telephone coverage. The trans-Atlantic telegraph cable was at Heart's Content, NF to Valencia (where present coast station EJK is located).

Some interesting reading on Newfoundland early communications is at the bottom of the news release.
http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/1997/tcr/0324N04.HTM

Others question the non-fading of the signal. A signal from 300 miles or less - as was the distance from Titanic to Cape Race doesn't exhibit the quick fading of the HF bands, but if it does fade, it does so gradually often with the time of day - however 300 miles or less was almost always solid copy with modern equipment. But most noticed that the signal was "too loud" - I agree if the signal was received with such a strong signal, it would have been received "somewhere" barely received - but heard. It wasn't. Cape Race copied it fairly faintly.

I will close by giving the email from Canadian Radio Historian, Spud Roscoe, VE1BC:

On Dec 16, 2007 1:52 PM, Spud Roscoe
Here is my 2 cents worth.

It has to be a fake because none of the old boys I interviewed 35 years ago that were there mentioned it. The DF station on Cape Race had call sign VAZ
and Reay Bridger operated that in 1919. He modulated a transmitter with a gramophone and received several reports on the signal from passing passenger ships. If there had been a recording like this these old boys would have mentioned it. Unfortunately they have all been dead at least 20 years now.

Another thing I have been given is a typewritten log for this incident.

Again false. The original logs burned when the MCE/VCE station burned in 1919. I knew the log was a fake as soon as I saw it because it was not written in the radio language of the day.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all!

73
Spud VE1BC
Halifax, Nova Scotia

So I conclude - with your help - that it is a fake.

Thanks for the answers and the help.

73
David Ring
R/O US Merchant Marine (Ret)

# 783. Whither BUG night?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 04:51:43 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 783  Message: 783

Calling all intrepid nostalgia buffs

When: New Year's Eve, any time

Where: 25 up +/-

What: Any mechanical code making device, particularly old, rare, and otherwise unrecognizable...

Vibroplex
McElroy
Speed-X
Cedar Rapids
Ultimate 73
Gold Bug
Double Lever
Side Swiper
Vertical
Right Angle
Junior
Simpex Auto
Codetrol
Dow
Bunnell
Lionel
Eddystone
Double Current
Marconi
Buzza
McDonald Pentagraph
Mecograph
Standard Radio Co

Let's hear them again!

73,

Fred - KT5X

www.kt5x.com

# 784. Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 04:52:19 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 773  Message: 784

W5FG, Jack Najork, sends a good message - why if the recording was a fake why wasn't it circulated.

I still have a feeling that the recording - http://mikea.ath.cx/www.n1ea.coastalradio.org.uk/SOS_MGY.mp3 was done by the members of the AWA. I found Ed Gable's email address (finally) and I am sending this to him.

Jack W5FG found the recording in Tasmania - and his last email is given below.

The recording is just too good - it was recorded locally. Parks Stevenson hasn't written in about the tone of the spark - which would certainly be telling because unlike other ships, the Titanic (and her sister ships) were outfitted with a 5 kW synchronous rotary spark transmitter.

Ed Gable, if you know where this recording came from, drop me a email and I will send it onward to the various email groups that have been following this.

73

David N1EA

---------- QTC ----------
From: J Najork <w5fgnaj@...>
Date: Dec 23, 2007 4:04 AM
Subject: Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?
To: David Ring <n1ea@...>

Hi David: Thank you for sending me that lengthy msge re authenticity of the SOS Titanic . I have one question which puzzles me. If, as you say, some of the boys got together and decided to "make history" why did they not promulgate their brainchild more widely? No one here or for that matter in EU evidently ever heard this and you would think that the "guys" would have had a lot more fun by passing their fake message around and getting some reaction. As is, the thing was just about lost in Australia so, good samaritan Jack decided to save history.....well, there are a lot of negative opinions out there and that is what they are: opinions. In lieu of positive proof I'll just go along with the opinion that the message was lost, was found, and is of questionable authenticity but no hard proof of "fakery" exists. Thanks again, David. I'm off jan 3 an another world cruise...68 days around South America, Antarctica ...Look for me W5FG/MM on 18115 14153 SSB or low end of CW band. 73 Jack

David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
Thanks for all the wonderful answers about the SOS recording of the Titanic.

There were only a few who thought it was real. Most thought it was false, some for the keying speed, some for other reasons which we will investigate later in this email.

Regarding the keying, many thought it was a Vibroplex, however two people reported that they could and can send with a straight key at that speed and that the keying in the recording was that of a straight key. I know some whom I've heard on the air - TG9ADM comes to mind - he is a young man - less than 20 years of age - and he sends with an Ameco straight key - also known as a Japanese JJ38 key. He can send 25 to 28 wpm. I've heard him.

The other objection to the sending is the shortness of the dashes. However, Phillips was a former wire telegrapher and they used a short dash - about 2:1 ratio to speed up the transmissions. Also I've found that when sending fast on a hand key -- "something" has to go to get the speed - it's either the spacing of the length of the code elements - mostly the dash.

In support of it being a fake were mentioned the "highly unlikely" possiblity of MCE having a Edison Dictaphone - even if they realized they had a "news story" and made a telegraph or telephone call - who are they going to call that has such a machine? This is Newfoundland - not New York City. However because of Newfoundland's significant geographic location with respect to Europe, it had significant telegraph coverage - if not telephone coverage. The trans-Atlantic telegraph cable was at Heart's Content, NF to Valencia (where present coast station EJK is located).

Some interesting reading on Newfoundland early communications is at the bottom of the news release.
http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/1997/tcr/0324N04.HTM

Others question the non-fading of the signal. A signal from 300 miles or less - as was the distance from Titanic to Cape Race doesn't exhibit the quick fading of the HF bands, but if it does fade, it does so gradually often with the time of day - however 300 miles or less was almost always solid copy with modern equipment. But most noticed that the signal was "too loud" - I agree if the signal was received with such a strong signal, it would have been received "somewhere" barely received - but heard. It wasn't. Cape Race copied it fairly faintly.

I will close by giving the email from Canadian Radio Historian, Spud Roscoe, VE1BC:

On Dec 16, 2007 1:52 PM, Spud Roscoe
Here is my 2 cents worth.

It has to be a fake because none of the old boys I interviewed 35 years ago that were there mentioned it. The DF station on Cape Race had call sign VAZ
and Reay Bridger operated that in 1919. He modulated a transmitter with a gramophone and received several reports on the signal from passing passenger ships. If there had been a recording like this these old boys would have mentioned it. Unfortunately they have all been dead at least 20 years now.

Another thing I have been given is a typewritten log for this incident.

Again false. The original logs burned when the MCE/VCE station burned in 1919. I knew the log was a fake as soon as I saw it because it was not written in the radio language of the day.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all!

73
Spud VE1BC
Halifax, Nova Scotia

So I conclude - with your help - that it is a fake.

Thanks for the answers and the help.

73
David Ring
R/O US Merchant Marine (Ret)

_____
Looking for last minute shopping deals? Find them fast with Yahoo! Search.

# 785. Re: [CW] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 12:23:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 785  Message: 785

I tried so hard to get all the reasons that I forgot one of the most convincing ones -- a professional would have sent the signal of distress as it was stated in the radio convention which just specified a signal of three dots, three dashes, three dots, sent as one continuous group.

No mention was made of "SOS" at all at the Berlin Convention or in the Marconi circular letters.

Also the mention of "can't hear because of steam" would have been in response to a signal sent by someone else. There were NO other signals at all on the recording, nor were there any atmospherics heard. The speed is too high and is contrary to what Harold Bride (2nd R/O) testified to later.

I think we all - and I would especially - love to know this recording as a genuine recording of events, but it just isn't - it would have surfaced, Spud in his research would have heard some trace of that story when he talked to old time operators from the area. Was one of those operators there when Titanic signaled her distress, Spud? A young man of 20 in 1912 could have been alive another 60 years or so.

Did I miss any of the objections, Gentlemen? Was there a compelling reason that I overlooked that showed the recording to be genuine?

There were many emails both on lists and private - I knew I forgot something. Sorry about that.

73

David Ring, N1EA
=30=

On Dec 23, 2007 1:44 PM, Paul Carreiro, N6EV <N6EV@...> wrote:
> Correct me if I'm wrong.. but another inconsistency in the recording
> is the SOS is sent incorrectly as three separate characters, as
> opposed to the established prosign version with the 9 elements strung
> together as one character. That's the way it has been sent by
> mariners since its implementation in 1908.
>
> Fake or real.. it's always interesting to hear a spark signal.
>
> 73 es ZUT / ZAO
> Paul N6EV
> FISTS #1407
>
>

>
> _____
> CW mailing list
> CW@...
> http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw
>

# 786. Re: [Radio Officers, &c] Re: [CW] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 12:57:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 786  Message: 786

Hello Peter,

Thanks for your comments (see below my SIG).

I've heard people send with a straight key at this speed. And it sound more like a straight key at that speed than it does a bug. However to support your comments, I only found one dash that wasn't timed correctly - it was shorter than the others. I didn't hear any variation in the dots, but neither did I hear variation in the other dashes.

I have one of Phil Boyle's excellent and accurate reproductions of the Marconi Lever key (Guillotine key) used on Titanic - and I can send as fast on that as I can on a 365. The 365 is smoother than the Lever key and both have heavy spark duty contacts.

I do not have a program with which to measure the length of the code elements except with great difficulty. It is easy with Adobe Audion, but I cannot find my copy of the program, so I used the free Audacity and the only easy way to measure a dot or dash is to trim the waveform down to the dot/dash and measure the length of the whole file. Too time consuming for me. But I did report on the inconsistant dash that I did measure this way.

73

DR

On Dec 23, 2007 8:45 PM, Peter Hewitson <peterhewitson@...> wrote:
>
> Just one thing David, on British ships, the use of vibro keys or bug keys of
> any kind was frowned upon and the key itself was usually bolted to the
> operating desk. When I was a junior sparks in 1965 on the "Empress of
> Canada" GHLA, I wasn't even allowed to alter the setting. I had to put up
> with spring tension being much too tight and I ended up with muscle tension
> or "glass arm". It was only later on, around 1970-ish that electronic keys
> and bug keys became popular on British ships.
>
> It's highly unlikely that Jack Phillips or Harold Bride would be using a bug
> key on the maiden voyage of the Titanic and all the photos of the original
> Titanic morse key is of a large brass hand key.
>
> The recording is so obviously one of a bug key because the dots just "slide"
> and it's very difficult, but not impossible to send like that with an
> "up-and-downer"

```
>
> 73
> Peter
```

# 787. Re: [cw_bugs] Whither BUG night?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 12:58:03 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 783  Message: 787

At 21:51 12/22/2007, cloud runner wrote:
><snip>
>Where: 25 up +/-

I'm not 100% sure I understand this correctly -- 7.025 --
14.025 -- etc???

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 788. RE: [CW] Re: SOS de MGY - Titanic - Real? or Fake?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 13:40:40 UTC
From: Ed Tanton
Topic: 785  Message: 788

Thanks for this David. I greatly appreciate not just the information, but the obvious passion you reflect for our hobby, our (most of us anyway) preferred mode, and your professional experience.

I think that, perhaps, this is what distinguishes the CW mode today in such stark comparison to other hams of today's generation: our passion for our mode; our constant efforts to improve our selves in our usage of it; and our sheer pleasure in that usage.

Not just a pursuit of something we take pleasure in, but truly a continual pursuit of excellence.

72/73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@...>
---
Reflector Manager For:

[Argonaut Users Group] [40M]
[CW] [EICO] [JPS] [JRC] [MIZUHO] [SBE]
[JOHNSON] [RACAL] [TMC]  [WINRADIO]
[TMI-RFI-EMI]  [Ham ELMER]  [PACTOR]
---
Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: http://www.n4xy.com

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP  K2 (Field Tester) #00057
QRP-L #165

---
"Right is right, even if everyone is
against it; and wrong is wrong, even
if everyone is for it."

William Penn
---

# 789. Re: [cw_bugs] Whither BUG night?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-23 16:35:53 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 783  Message: 789

UP 25 +/-
= 25 kHz up from the bottom of the band plus/minus.

So on 3500 band it is 3525, 7000 band, 7025, 10100 band 10125, 18067 band 18092, 50,000 band, 50,025, and so forth.

73
David N1EA

On Dec 23, 2007 8:58 PM, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> At 21:51 12/22/2007, cloud runner wrote:
> ><snip>
> >Where: 25 up +/-
>
> I'm not 100% sure I understand this correctly -- 7.025 --
> 14.025 -- etc???
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 790. Bug Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 15:35:37 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 790  Message: 790

UP 25 +/-
= 25 kHz up from the bottom of the band plus/minus.

So on 3500 band it is 3525, 7000 band, 7025, 10100 band 10125, 18067 band 18092, 50,000 band, 50,025, and so forth.

73
David N1EA

But of course.

Except that, good luck on bands other than 20, 40 and 80 ;-)

Merry Christmas,

Fred - kt5x

# 791. FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 18:58:12 UTC
From: Mike Shelly
Topic: 791  Message: 791

I have a vintage Vibroplex bug circa 1950's and would like to connect a fabric cord to it.
Does anyone have a source for vintage repro cords?
Vibroplex only sells the gray audio cords.
Posted this a couple of days ago but never saw it come up, not sure way. So if this becomes a duplicate I'm sorry.

73
WB2KKI
Mike
Vibroplex Champion bug
Vibroplex Original bug

# 792. Re: [cw_bugs] FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 19:55:15 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 791  Message: 792

At 11:58 12/24/2007, Mike Shelly wrote:

>I have a vintage Vibroplex bug circa 1950's and would like to connect a
>fabric cord to it.
>Does anyone have a source for vintage repro cords?
>Vibroplex only sells the gray audio cords.
>Posted this a couple of days ago but never saw it come up, not sure
>way. So if this becomes a duplicate I'm sorry.

Never saw the first one, Mike, and a duplicate wouldn't be a
problem anyway.

Occasionally you see those wedge plugs on eBay, and I think
the last time I saw one it was from AZRoadrunners -- he's well-known
for damaging keys and bugs with his wire brush cleaning methods, but
you might be OK with a wedge plug. It might be a good idea to
contact AZRoadrunners and ask if he has any.

Or... somebody on the list may have an
extra. Unfortunately, I only have one which I want to hang on to.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 793. Re: [cw_bugs] FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 20:28:20 UTC
From: Eric Lawson
Topic: 791  Message: 793

On Mon, 24 Dec 2007, Mike Shelly wrote:

(snip)
> Does anyone have a source for vintage repro cords?
(snip)

I just replaced my hiking boot laces. The "bootlace" is a hollow brown woven fabric covering a very strong white cord. The brown covering looks similar to the cord used on my mom's 1930s telephone.

If you can't immediately find the correct cord, you could hide modern wires inside this type of shoelace.

I could mail you the old shoelaces....they're old, but not too crusty....

Eric

# 794. Re: [cw_bugs] FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 21:45:23 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 791  Message: 794

I am also looking for fabric covered wire to make some wedges.

Look at this site. http://www.radiodaze.com/
In the part page is some 2 conductor fabric speaker wire that would
probably work.
I have inquired to another supplier also and will let you know what
info I receive from them.

There are probably more supplkiers out there, it's just finding them on the web.

On Dec 24, 2007 1:58 PM, Mike Shelly <wb2kki@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> I have a vintage Vibroplex bug circa 1950's and would like to connect a
> fabric cord to it.
> Does anyone have a source for vintage repro cords?
> Vibroplex only sells the gray audio cords.
> Posted this a couple of days ago but never saw it come up, not sure
> way. So if this becomes a duplicate I'm sorry.
>
> 73
> WB2KKI
> Mike
> Vibroplex Champion bug
> Vibroplex Original bug
>
>

--
73,
Don, NN8B
SKCC 36T

# 795. Re: FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 21:55:46 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 791  Message: 795

Mike,
Merry Christmas. I have two of these and would be willing to part with
one.
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Mike Shelly" <wb2kki@...> wrote:
>
> I have a vintage Vibroplex bug circa 1950's and would like to connect
a
> fabric cord to it.
> Does anyone have a source for vintage repro cords?
> Vibroplex only sells the gray audio cords.
> Posted this a couple of days ago but never saw it come up, not sure
> way. So if this becomes a duplicate I'm sorry.
>
> 73
> WB2KKI
> Mike
> Vibroplex Champion bug
> Vibroplex Original bug
>

# 796. Thanks Re Fabric cable

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-24 22:15:46 UTC
From: Mike Shelly
Topic: 796  Message: 796

Thanks all for the help and offers! Found a supplier of cloth coverd cable that should work fine. Those with old wedges, I would keep them and not cut off the wedges. I'm sure in the era of e-bay they are or will be worth somthing.

Merry Chritmas and Happy New year to all.

73
Mike
WB2KKI

# 797. Bugging so far .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-25 16:33:04 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 797  Message: 797

Hi All and a Merry Christmas !!

Worked my first station with the bug ..... it was only fitting his call was OH2BAD which summed up my sending !!! I see that nerves is a contributing factor in success ..... I switched the Vari-Speed for the new Extendadot and like it better !!! With the small weights supplied it plays at 13 WPM which is a bit easier for me now. With the weight from Russ , K0LUW it gets down to 10 WPM which seems a bit too slow as I dont get my spacing with dashes right. I'll be on with it tonite in the SKCC SPRINT tonite so have patience with me and my Bug hihi. As I get less nervous I think that will help greatly !!!!

Thanks to all who helped with the decision to go "Buggy" !!!

Tony , W4FOA
Frank , KB4T
Drew , AF2Z
Pete , W5PEH
Tom , K9TB
Milt , K4OSO
Steve , N6VL

last but not least .....

Ron , AC2C

Mighta forgot a few but thanks again !!!

73

George Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
FISTS 12912

# 798. Re: FABRIC CABLE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-26 13:38:51 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 791  Message: 798

http://radiodaze.com/wire-multiconductor.htm

# 799. Re: Bugging so far .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-26 21:15:12 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 797  Message: 799

Weel - I'm CQ ing on 14.02550 at the moment with an old Simplex Auto.
No replies yet. Will keep it up for half an hour or so .

John / G0RDO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "George Osier" <gosier@...> wrote:
>
> Hi All and a Merry Christmas !!
>
> Worked my first station with the bug ..... it was only fitting
his call
> was OH2BAD which summed up my sending !!! I see that nerves is a
> contributing factor in success ..... I switched the Vari-Speed
for the
> new Extendadot and like it better !!! With the small weights
supplied it
> plays at 13 WPM which is a bit easier for me now. With the weight
from Russ
> , K0LUW it gets down to 10 WPM which seems a bit too slow as I dont
get my
> spacing with dashes right. I'll be on with it tonite in the SKCC
SPRINT
> tonite so have patience with me and my Bug hihi. As I get less
nervous I
> think that will help greatly !!!!
>
> Thanks to all who helped with the decision to go "Buggy" !!!
>
> Tony , W4FOA
> Frank , KB4T
> Drew , AF2Z
> Pete , W5PEH
> Tom , K9TB
> Milt , K4OSO
> Steve , N6VL
>
> last but not least .....
>
> Ron , AC2C
>
> Mighta forgot a few but thanks again !!!
>
> 73
>
> George Osier , N2JNZ

```
> SKCC 2836T
> FISTS 12912
>
```

# 800. Bug adjustment .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 00:48:45 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 800  Message: 800

Hi All !!

Put the bug on dummy load and found out my dits were a bit noisey .....
So I lined up the dit contacts better and it seemed to go away ..... That
normal ???

Also the damper seemed to stck open a bit when the weight of the Extendadot
and the brass weight from Russ , K0LUW slapped into it on a hard single dit
from me. A very tiny drop of oil at the top section of the damper at the
hinge seemed to work FB.

Still fine tuning but enjoying the learning !!!

73

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

# 801. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug adjustment .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 02:33:10 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 800  Message: 801
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 802. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug adjustment .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 02:38:20 UTC
From: w9ya@qrparci.net
Topic: 800  Message: 802

Interesting. A comment or two and a suggestion;

I sell lubricants.

Silicon, graphite, and many of the other synthetic lubes will (over time,) can build up and clog mechanical parts.

In other words; you get to pick your poison.

I can recommend for MOST parts (check your plastics); ProLix. It doesn't have the build up issues of the other synthetics AND it does not degrade over time, and is dry to the touch, so it does not cause dirt issues like oils.

Vy 73;

Bob
w9ya

> George, and group,
>
> Silicone lubricant is to be preferred as it doesn't attract dust like
> oil does. While oil seems to give it a nice movement at the beginning,
> it won't be long before the oil attracts dust and gets gritty. Often
> bicycle stores have different dry lubes that they use.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
> On Dec 27, 2007 8:48 AM, George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
>
>> Hi All !!
>>
>> Put the bug on dummy load and found out my dits were a bit noisey
>> ..... So I lined up the dit contacts better and it seemed to go
>> away ..... That
>> normal ???
>>
>>
>> Also the damper seemed to stck open a bit when the weight of the
>> Extendadot
>> and the brass weight from Russ , K0LUW slapped into it on a hard
>> single dit
>> from me. A very tiny drop of oil at the top section of the damper at
>> the hinge seemed to work FB.
>>

>> Still fine tuning but enjoying the learning !!!
>>
>> 73
>>
>> George , N2JNZ
>> SKCC 2836T

Liviu Librescu - ?n veci pomenirea lui.
(May his memory be eternal.)

# 803. noisy dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 06:58:28 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 800  Message: 803

At 17:48 12/26/2007, George Osier wrote:
>Put the bug on dummy load and found out my dits were a bit noisey .....
>So I lined up the dit contacts better and it seemed to go away ..... That
>normal ???

Yep, and I have found that the dit contact spacing also has
an effect of how the dits sound -- too much space and they get
choppy, and even scratchy. Too little, and you get 3 or 4 dits and a
single tone. In fact, all the adjustments work together and you'll
come to understand how they work just by using the bug more.

BTW -- congrats on the new bug -- I hope to buy a brand-new
one sometime in my life, but it may not happen! <G>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 804. Re: noisy dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 08:44:17 UTC
From: Dick Williams
Topic: 800  Message: 804

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> At 17:48 12/26/2007, George Osier wrote:
> >Put the bug on dummy load and found out my dits were a bit noisey
.....
> >So I lined up the dit contacts better and it seemed to go away
..... That
> >normal ???
>
> Yep, and I have found that the dit contact spacing also has
> an effect of how the dits sound -- too much space and they get
> choppy, and even scratchy. Too little, and you get 3 or 4 dits and a
> single tone. In fact, all the adjustments work together and you'll
> come to understand how they work just by using the bug more.
>
> BTW -- congrats on the new bug -- I hope to buy a brand-new
> one sometime in my life, but it may not happen! <G>
>
> 7 3
> Earl

I had the same issue - noisy dits. Scratchy would be the way I would
describe it. I found the contacts needed to be tweaked just a little.
This occured on my brand new Vibroplex bug, the Anniversary edition.
Sounds purty sweet now.

73

Rich KB3OMJ

# 805. FOR SALE: McElroy P-500 Bug $200

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 16:03:24 UTC
From: "Tony"
Topic: 805  Message: 805

Selling off some of my key collection. This is the McElroy P-500 Bug (1941-1942).
Black wrinkle finish. Smooth operating bug. Not "collector" quality but fully operational.
Sell for $200 shipped.
73
Tony, W4FOA email: (w4foa at comcast dot net)

# 806. Re: Bugging so far .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 16:16:13 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 797  Message: 806

George,

Congrats on the new bug!

Right now I've been practing on a cootie key or sideswiper, an older cousin of the bug. I want to try it for SKN this year. There are VERY few cootie users out there!

I've tried a few different bugs: 1973 Champion, 1961 Standard Orginal, 1953 Prensentation Deluxe, and a Japanese coffin bug. I really took to the coffin bug for a few weeks, but soon reverted back to my Presentation. It really has a smooth feel, and slows down easily.

Yes I prefer the Extendadot too. I only have the Vari-Speed for a flat arm bug. So I can't compare them for round arm bugs.

In time, you'll find the bug very intuitive and natural to use. At first it is quite hard.

I worked D44AC, in Cape Verde islands off the west coast of Africa, with my bug at about 20 wpm. I can't copy that fast, but it was a pile up, and I managed to get the basic info from him, even at his speed of 25 wpm. The bug comes in real handy for high speed situations when you want to stay all mechanical, hi.

Enjoy the new bug. You'll get it down I'm sure!

73,

Steve N6VL

# 807. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugging so far .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 16:25:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 797  Message: 807

N6VL de N1EA =

I know oftentimes people are not aware that the "Presentation" model had an adjustable mainspring that could be extended or reduced in size by loosening the two machine screws on the top of the lever. This was called the "LaHiff Adjustable Mainspring".

You can make this "Original - Type Key" behave like a Lightning bug (slow) or a Blue Racer (fast) - or somewhere in between.

Remember - for good bug sending - good contact alignment both horizontal, vertical and alignment so "face hits face" on the dot side (especially) - and enough swing on the lever to produce a vibrating rod. Good vibrations = nice semi-automatic.

73

DR

On Dec 28, 2007 12:16 AM, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
1953 Prensentation Deluxe, ... ...but soon reverted back to my Presentation. It really has a smooth feel, and slows down easily.

# 808. noisy dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 17:22:36 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 800  Message: 808

Old rigs had a lot of current on the contacts, causing the contacts to deteriorate. if you have an old bug, you may have very rough contact surfaces. I put mine to a polishing wheel, once.

New rigs don't have THAT problem, but they do have another one. New rigs are so fast, they will try to follow micro-second make and breaks as the contacts slide across the face. You may be able to defeat that simply by putting a .1 cap across the key. it will remain charged long enough to bridge that nastiness.

73,

Fred - kt5x

# 809. Re: [cw_bugs] noisy dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-27 18:17:02 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 800  Message: 809

However, the caveat of "face to face" with vertical and horizontal alignment still applies.

And remember the #1 requirement - the vibrator must be vigorous. Spacings typical with "keyer" or "manipulator" (Vibrokeyer or dual paddles) just don't work.

73

DR

On Dec 28, 2007 1:22 AM, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
>
> Old rigs had a lot of current on the contacts, causing the contacts to
> deteriorate. if you have an old bug, you may have very rough contact
> surfaces. I put mine to a polishing wheel, once.
>
> New rigs don't have THAT problem, but they do have another one. New rigs
> are so fast, they will try to follow micro-second make and breaks as the
> contacts slide across the face. You may be able to defeat that simply by
> putting a .1 cap across the key. it will remain charged long enough to
> bridge that nastiness.
>
> 73,
>
> Fred - kt5x
>
>

# 810. Re: noisy dits

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-28 14:39:27 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 800  Message: 810

I have a J36 Fred with a huge old cap ( .0005MFD, 2000VDC ) looks
like a piece of chocolate, so will
try it on other bugs. Thanks for the tip. Going to use bugs/pounders
almost exclusively for 2008 - should be fun.
John / G0RDO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Old rigs had a lot of current on the contacts, causing the contacts
to deteriorate. if you have an old bug, you may have very rough
contact surfaces. I put mine to a polishing wheel, once.
>
> New rigs don't have THAT problem, but they do have another one.
New rigs are so fast, they will try to follow micro-second make and
breaks as the contacts slide across the face. You may be able to
defeat that simply by putting a .1 cap across the key. it will
remain charged long enough to bridge that nastiness.
>
> 73,
>
> Fred - kt5x
>

# 811. Canada Winter Test .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2007-12-29 03:32:24 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 811  Message: 811

Hi All !!!

Been doing the Winter Test here splitting the time between Bug and SK ... I have found out that I'm making bug errors by trying to go the speed of the other station so I just go at my 15 WPM and they seem patient .....

I worked Ed , KG4W but wasnt so hot on the bug to him ..... but the rest I worked came out ok.

Low key contest and good for fast SK practice or if yer into S+M like me a BUG ..... hihi

73

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

# 812. Old Edison Recording

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-01 00:35:51 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 812  Message: 812

While we discussed a possible recording of Titanic's SOS, I remembered that I had "discovered" an old recording on the Tinfoil recordings site and had exchanged email with the owner. The Tinfoil web page is here: http://www.tinfoil.com/cm-0406.htm

With the help of some of the R/O List members - chiefly Lake Trump - R/O from WKR Nome, Alaska and AT&T telegrapher (wire Morse Code!), we were able to decode the message.

Here is the recording: http://www.tinfoil.com/cm/200406/morse-code~.ram

Here is what it says:

. JOE JEFFRIES OWES JACK JOHNSON A GOOD DEAL OF MONEY. THAT IS HE HAS MADE A FORTUNE THROUGH HIS RELATIONS WITH THE COLORED CHAMPION. IN FACT THE CALIFORNIAN HAS CLEANED UP $62218.28 SINCE NOV 17 ALL BECAUSE THE NEGRO FIGHTER INSISTED THAT THE RETIRED CHAMPION AGREE TO MEET HIM IN A FISTIC CONTEST. 1 235 46789 342156.

American Morse was used on USA wireless telegraph stations until about 1920. During that time period, the USA Department of Commerce who licensed Radio Operators, tested commercial operators in both both codes. They used American Morse for USA ships, and Continental (International) Morse for other countries ships.

Additional recordings are on this page: http://www.normanfield.com/morse.htm

I remember one recording had the OLD symbol for PERIOD which was sent just as three groups of double dots - or like: I I I Three letter " I " sent together.

I remember, Don de Neuf, WA1STO (SK) - former Press Wireless President - mentioned to me that he had sent a message to a Japanese station and used symbol for period.

The Japanese station copied this transmission of: "N.Y.C." as NIII YIII CIII - which really confused the person in NYC who finally received the telegram!

I believe the Charles Apgar, W2MN recording which is on our recordings page has a station sending III for period.

During the 1980s there was a Press Wireless (PREWI) group that met on 14,115 kHz near where the SOWP net was held. Don de Neuf, WA1STO, Dalt Bergstedt, W6AUH and a N5??? who sent with a keyboard - but who was one of Press Wireless highest speed operators - met daily. I used to enjoy speaking to them. I can't remember the N5??? - if anyone does, let me know.

73

DR

=30=

# 813. Re: [Radio Officers, &c] Old Edison Recording

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-01 01:27:47 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 813  Message: 813

One of our attentive list members - those Tin Cans our Navy had always had the best Sparks on them - has rescued me by providing Don de Neuf's correct call sign.

Don's call sign was WA1SPM.

I have been gently corrected and I apologize for my forgetful memory! Don's memory is treasured by all who knew him.

73

DR

On Jan 1, 2008 9:06 AM, <SQARHED@.....com> wrote:

> Callsign: WA1SPM Class: General
> Name: DONALD K DE NEUF
> Effective: 18 Dec 1984
> Expires: 18 Dec 1994
> Address: 602B HERITAGE VILLAGE
> City/State: SOUTHBURY CT 06488
> Previous: Class:
>

# 814. ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-07 19:13:31 UTC
From: Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ
Topic: 814  Message: 814

Hello all.

There is anyone here, that have any Project of a Vibroplex key lik this or similar.

http://www.vibroplex.com/blue_racer.html

All projects are welcome.

Many thanks in Advance.

Carlos, Ct1GFQ

# 815. Re: [cw_bugs] ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-07 19:52:37 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 814  Message: 815

Carlos,

That Vibroplex has a beautiful color - but the base is very narrow -
only 2.5 inches.
A larger base like the standard Vibroplex of 3.5 inches wide is much
more stable. The Blue Racer 2000 has a tendency to move as if it
wants to tip over!

So make a wider base - but paint the color you like!

73

David N1EA

On Jan 8, 2008 3:13 AM, Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ <ct1gfqgrupos@...> wrote:
>
> Hello all.
>
> There is anyone here, that have any Project of a Vibroplex key lik this or
> similar. http://www.vibroplex.com/blue_racer.html
>
> Carlos, Ct1GFQ
>

# 816. RE: [cw_bugs] ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-07 21:59:54 UTC
From: Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ
Topic: 814  Message: 816

Hello David.

Yes, I think also that the base need to be a litle bit large .

But what I realy need is the mechanical diagram, because, I have a friend,
how want to make a home made vibroplex.

73's.
Carlos, CT1GFQ

---

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] Em nome de
David Ring
Enviada: segunda-feira, 7 de Janeiro de 2008 19:53
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Assunto: Re: [cw_bugs] ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Carlos,

That Vibroplex has a beautiful color - but the base is very narrow -
only 2.5 inches.
A larger base like the standard Vibroplex of 3.5 inches wide is much
more stable. The Blue Racer 2000 has a tendency to move as if it
wants to tip over!

So make a wider base - but paint the color you like!

73

David N1EA

On Jan 8, 2008 3:13 AM, Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ <ct1gfqgrupos@
<mailto:ct1gfqgrupos%40gmail.com> gmail.com> wrote:
>
> Hello all.
>
> There is anyone here, that have any Project of a Vibroplex key lik this or
> similar. http://www.vibrople <http://www.vibroplex.com/blue_racer.html>
x.com/blue_racer.html
>
> Carlos, Ct1GFQ
>

# 817. (no subject)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-07 22:02:58 UTC
From: kq6i@arrl.net
Topic: 817  Message: 817

[Body unavailable in the source archive]

# 818. RE: [cw_bugs] ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-07 22:07:14 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 814  Message: 818

At 14:59 1/7/2008, Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ wrote:

>Hello David.
>
>Yes, I think also that the base need to be a litle bit large .
>
>But what I realy need is the mechanical diagram, because, I have a
>friend, how want to make a home made vibroplex.
>
>73's.
>Carlos, CT1GFQ

Perhaps these will help:

<http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug.html>

<http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_machine_drawing.pdf>

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 819. Speaking of homebrew keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-11 22:15:33 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 819  Message: 819

Take a look at some of these:
http://www.atdi24.dsl.pipex.com/more_on_morse_keys.htm

This link, and many others of CW interest, can be found at:
http://www.w2blc.us/radiotelegraphyindex.html

# 820. January NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-15 00:20:44 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 193  Message: 820

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for January, 2008.

Rather than make any mistakes as to the time; I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200801.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies, this month's Special Award, etc.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #035

## 821. Titanic CQD message and Marconi recording devices

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-15 06:00:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 821 Message: 821

From: Parks Stephenson

I think that I found a historical tidbit that may drive the final nail into the coffin about the authenticity of the "Titanic CQD" recording that has been a topic of discussion in this group for the past couple of months.

As some of you know, there was an wireless pioneer by the name of Charles Apgar who is acknowledged as the first to make recordings of wireless transmissions, using a modification to his Edison dictaphone. The original wax cylinders on which he made these recordings have been lost to time, but on 27 December 1934, Apgar presented a sample (only 2, unfortunately) of his recordings to NBC host George Hicks on radio station WJZ in New York. That broadcast, copies of which are kept in the archives of both the AWA and the Library of Congress, does not contain the Titanic CQD message, but Apgar's voice in the WJZ recording sounds a lot like the unknown presenter who says, "1912," at the beginning of the Titanic recording. For that reason, we can surmise that the Titanic recording was demonstrated during a similar radio broadcast at around the same time (give or take a few years).

Here's the real kicker, though...according to Apgar's biographers, Apgar invented his wireless recorder in 1913, while working as a researcher for Roy Wigan, the chief engineer in the New Jersey office of the American Marconi Company. There was no known wireless recorder (of sound) in existence, much less in use by the Marconi Company, prior to 1913. If this information is correct, then there was no recorder available to record Titanic's signals in 1912.

The recording itself begins right as the presenter says, "1912." If you listen carefully, you can tell that the beginning of "1912" is clipped; evidently, the speaker was saying something before "1912," but that part of the recording was omitted. I would like to know what was being said at that point (could it have been something like, "...as it would have sounded like in 1912"?). I believe that therein lies the correct description for this recording and it is not what people who want to pass this off as a genuine Titanic artefact would like to have us know.

73,
Parks

--~--~---------~--~----~------------~-------~--~----~

# 822. Pounding >25 wpm by Straight Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-16 16:00:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 822  Message: 822

I received the following email from Ray Lee, VR2UW - Hong Kong. It is about a video clip of someone sending nearly 30 wpm on a hand key.

Thanks Ray!

73

DR

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Raymond Lee <vr2uw>
Date: Jan 16, 2008 7:39 PM
Subject: Pounding >25 wpm by Straight Key
To: n1ea@...

Hi Dave

The following URL captures a CW forum that held in Shantung of China on last December in which amateur radio operator BD4IZL Mr Yu (a former communciation company commander in Chinese People Liberation Army) demonstrated his fist on pounding straight key; obviously his speed close to 30 wpm (latter part of the video clip). You always ask for such demonstration, so you got it this time. Enjoy.

http://www.tudou.com/programs/view/EyDpHK5sqzU/

73's de Ray, VR2UW
Hong Kong

=30=

# 823. Re: Pounding >25 wpm by Straight Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-16 22:43:19 UTC
From: Dick Williams
Topic: 822  Message: 823

Hi Dave -

Thanks for the link to the video.

There are some excellent videos on YouTube.com of ops sending with
bugs - some with incredible speed. You and/or other group members
might like to check them out.

73

Rich KB3OMJ

-- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I received the following email from Ray Lee, VR2UW - Hong Kong. It is
> about a video clip of someone sending nearly 30 wpm on a hand key.
>
> Thanks Ray!
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: Raymond Lee <vr2uw>
> Date: Jan 16, 2008 7:39 PM
> Subject: Pounding >25 wpm by Straight Key
> To: n1ea@...
>
>
> Hi Dave
>
> The following URL captures a CW forum that held in Shantung of China
> on last December in which amateur radio operator BD4IZL Mr Yu (a
> former communciation company commander in Chinese People Liberation
> Army) demonstrated his fist on pounding straight key; obviously his
> speed close to 30 wpm (latter part of the video clip). You always ask
> for such demonstration, so you got it this time. Enjoy.
>
>
> http://www.tudou.com/programs/view/EyDpHK5sqzU/
>
> 73's de Ray, VR2UW
> Hong Kong
>

> =30=
>

# 824. Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 00:54:04 UTC
From: Philip
Topic: 814  Message: 824

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Carlos Fonseca - Ct1GFQ"
<ct1gfqgrupos@...> wrote:
>
> Hello David.
>
> Yes, I think also that the base need to be a litle bit large .
>
> But what I realy need is the mechanical diagram, because, I have a
friend,
> how want to make a home made vibroplex.
>
> 73's.
> Carlos, CT1GFQ
>
>
>

Sorry for the late reply, but I am just now catching up on my emails.

If your friend is wanting to make a key just for the fun of it, I would suggest buying the book by W R Smith on Vibroplex restoration. The book will give a lot of suggestions on how to make some of the springs and such. If he is wanting to make a key to save money on the purchase price, it would be cheaper to just buy a vibroplex than to buy the book and all the supplies to make a bug. The book alone is $55.00 plus shipping.

Here is a link to the book:

http://www.chss.montclair.edu/~pererat/mwr.htm

73 de wd5day

# 825. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Pounding >25 wpm by Straight Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 05:59:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 822  Message: 825

Bugs with incredible speeds - that's fairly common as I also can send pretty fast (but prefer 35 wpm to send at).

Doug Brabner, VE7NH, (Former VE7CXE, GM4CXE) holds the record as far as I am concerned. I've heard him send beautiful code at 70 wpm with his Vibroplex.

Why don't you post some of the links for the good ones?

73
David N1EA

On Jan 17, 2008 6:43 AM, Dick Williams <hermit@...> wrote:
> Hi Dave -
>
> Thanks for the link to the video.
>
> There are some excellent videos on YouTube.com of ops sending with
> bugs - some with incredible speed. You and/or other group members
> might like to check them out.
>
> 73
>
> Rich KB3OMJ

# 826. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 07:05:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 814  Message: 826

I second the recommendation of WR's book on Key Restorations - it is excellent.

Vibroplex keys are quite cheap - especially for DX now that the US$
has a very DX favorable exchange rate.

You can't make one for what they charge - unless you work for free!

73
David N1EA

# 827. Bugs on YouTube

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 08:21:36 UTC
From: Dick Williams
Topic: 827  Message: 827

As David Ring requested here is a link to bugs on YouTube. There is quite a selection of bugs as well as straight keys, so enjoy.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WV6FG2yWww&feature=related

73

Rich
KB3OMJ

# 828. Re: Bugs on YouTube

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 11:33:34 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 827  Message: 828

Very interesting. Thanks for the links.

# 829. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 17:56:24 UTC
From: Carlos Fonseca - CT1GFQ
Topic: 814  Message: 829

The problem, is not the price in USA, the problem, is when the key arrive at Portugal, with chipping and peage, is more or less $150 to $200.

73's.

Carlos, CT1GFQ

---

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] Em nome de David Ring
Enviada: quinta-feira, 17 de Janeiro de 2008 7:06
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Assunto: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

I second the recommendation of WR's book on Key Restorations - it is excellent.

Vibroplex keys are quite cheap - especially for DX now that the US$ has a very DX favorable exchange rate.

You can't make one for what they charge - unless you work for free!

73
David N1EA

# 830. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-17 18:36:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 814  Message: 830

You still can't make it for less - unless labor is free - but it is a
lot of work to make a one time key.

The 100th Anniversary bug is $158 - and this is a deluxe model with a
jeweled movement (something you are not able to make on a lathe) -
shipping to EU is $37.00 = total = $195 which is EU 133.

If you can make this key - which you cannot with the jeweled bearings
- for EU 133, I will eat the key!

73
David

On Jan 18, 2008 1:56 AM, Carlos Fonseca - CT1GFQ <ct1gfqgrupos@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> The problem, is not the price in USA, the problem, is when the key arrive at
> Portugal, with chipping and peage, is more or less $150 to $200.
>
>
>
>
>
> 73's.
>
> Carlos, CT1GFQ
>
>
>
>
> ---
>
>
> De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] Em nome de
> David Ring
> Enviada: quinta-feira, 17 de Janeiro de 2008 7:06
> Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Assunto: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: ( O.T. ) Home Made Vibroplex Project.( Need )
>
>
>
>
>
>

>
> I second the recommendation of WR's book on Key Restorations - it is
> excellent.
>
> Vibroplex keys are quite cheap - especially for DX now that the US$
> has a very DX favorable exchange rate.
>
> You can't make one for what they charge - unless you work for free!
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>

# 831. Run for the Bacon - tomorrow night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-19 18:26:15 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 831  Message: 831

The January Run for the Bacon is tomorrow night!

Sunday night - January 20th from:
9 - 11 PM EST
8 - 10 PM CST
7 - 9 PM MST
6 - 8 PM PST

This is a 2 hour, fun filled, friendly QRP CW contest open to ALL radio amateurs. Membership in the Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is not required. For the scoop on the details, please go to:

http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

Hope to catch you on the bands!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 832. Sweet Sending SOWP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-19 23:54:24 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 832  Message: 832

The Society of Wireless Pioneers is having it's annual (and perhaps its last) "round up" - or QSO party.

It is open to members only, but even if you aren't a member, you'll appreciate hearing some of the sweetest fists in radio.

80 through 10 meters, CW only, NO WARC bands, centered around .050 up from the bottom of the band. DX SOWP stations might be heard around .035 to .065 up from the bottom of the band. You might even hear 160 meter operation.

You'll hear bugs, straight keys, sideswipers (cooties) and el bugs.

SOWP is "Lifetime" membership - so if you "were" a member at one time, you still "are" a member. Members are invited to join in. Others are invited to listen in.

73
David N1EA
SOWP M-3709

# 833. Re: [DX-IS] Re: List

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-20 14:33:01 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 833  Message: 833

At 10:42 1/18/2008, Earl Needham wrote:
>I fear the years of the old
>list being dead may have done the group in, though -- we have 135
>members, but only 17 posts so far in January.

I posted the above over on the new DX-IS list -- am I
right? Is this list not what it should be? I expected MUCH more
activity than we seem to have.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 834. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [DX-IS] Re: List

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-20 20:06:19 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 833  Message: 834

Hi, Earl and all -

Just checking in to let you all know that i am a faithful "lurker" and will have a post with some content later in the week. So perhaps lack of postings doesn't really measure the level of interest.

I'll try to put my 2 cents' worth in from time to time.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: Earl Needham
Sent: Jan 20, 2008 9:33 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: [DX-IS] Re: List

At 10:42 1/18/2008, Earl Needham wrote:
>I fear the years of the old
>list being dead may have done the group in, though -- we have 135
>members, but only 17 posts so far in January.

I posted the above over on the new DX-IS list -- am I
right? Is this list not what it should be? I expected MUCH more
activity than we seem to have.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 835. Re: List Roto-Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-20 23:51:57 UTC
From: kq6i@arrl.net
Topic: 833  Message: 835

Rich,
Any plans to build and sell your interesting Roto-Bugs?

Craig
kq6i

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Richard Meiss
Sent: Sunday, January 20, 2008 1:06 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [DX-IS] Re: List

Hi, Earl and all -

Just checking in to let you all know that i am a faithful "lurker" and will have a post with some
content later in the week. So perhaps lack of postings doesn't really measure the level of interest.

I'll try to put my 2 cents' worth in from time to time.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 836. Laci, W1PL, ex-WA1FHU, HA4EA - SK - 20 Jan 2008 -

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-22 09:00:13 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 836  Message: 836

OIn Saturday I spoke with Laci Radnay (also called Les or Laslo), W1PL, ex WA1FHU, HA4EA, etc. He was in assisted living but shortly after our phone call - which included Morse code sent my hand key and oscillator and Laci's beautiful mouth Morse of "doot-doot-dit-dit-dit, ... ... dit-dit-dit-doot-doot" - 73 (perhaps his last QSO!), but I just found out from his grandson, that he passed away last night, Sunday 20 January 2008.

Laci was age 96.

He was a great CW operator as we all remember.

He will be missed greatly by all who knew him. The people who he touched with his gentleness is numbered in the tens of thousands.

73

David N1EA

# 837. Laci

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-23 02:51:22 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 837  Message: 837

It couldn't be said better, David. Only had the pleasure of meeting him once, at an FOC dinner in DC. His warmth of personality was exceeded only be his skill as a telegrapher.

161

Fred - kt5x

# 838. Laci Radnay, W1PL, SK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-23 04:09:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 838  Message: 838

I first met Laci at a library where there was a meeting of the Eastern Massachusetts Net (EMN) - it was back in 1966 or '67. Most of the net members of that time are silent keys - but not all which is surprising - traffic handlers live to reach a ripe old age.

I went to the Quninopawit Radio Association - QRA - Joe Poges, W1DFS, WA1FHU (Laci), Dean Straw WA1IRG (now N6BV) and Bob Ansell, K1WGM from National Radio in Melrose, MA. What a great crew! Also there was WA1DRO, Ralph Perry (now W1OUT) who was a fireman from Milton and what a voice! He also was good at CW. I think Dean had some sort of CW only prototype CW transceiver from National - hetrodyne VFO, break in!

Oh the memories!

Here is more from Dean Straw:

-----N6BV's message -----
Remembering a Remarkable Ham: Laci Radnay, W1PL.
January 21, 2008

With considerable sadness I hear that Laci Radnay, W1PL, passed away last Sunday night 20 January 2008 at the age of 96. Laci and I go back at least 40 years, for he was the
man who hired me at National Radio Company after I graduated from college in 1967. By the time I finally arrived in Melrose, MA, as a junior engineer, Laci had moved on to work at Raytheon. So I never actually directly worked under his tutelage.

However, I did get to know him well as a person, a friend and a contest mentor because we lived nearby and we were both active members of the Quannapowitt Radio Association (QRA) in Wakefield, MA. I remember getting my clock cleaned numerous times by WA1FHU (he was then WA1FHU, while I was WA1IRG) in contests in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Forgive me if you've heard this story before - I'm invoking my "old codger" privilege. This is a how Laci taught me about contesting "iron pants." My memory is a little foggy about the exact date, but I think it was June 1970 when the QRA was doing a big-time Field Day. I was operating 40 CW in the mid afternoon and I was making a lousy 10 QSOs/hour, a rate a hotshot young operator like myself, ahem, found to be demeaning, even worthless. I got up, threw down the headphones in disdain and said loudly that I was thoroughly bored. Laci sat down in front of the radio and started operating, while I
marched off to get some coffee.

Some time later, maybe a half hour or so, I wandered back, rather curious to see how Laci was doing. Lo and behold, he was making 10 QSOs/hour. As I watched him patiently call CQ after CQ, it suddenly dawned on me why WA1FHU kept beating me so thoroughly in contests where we went head-to-head. Laci
was sitting there actually making QSOs, while I was bored silly, but making NO QSOs. "Duh," they say nowadays.

Laci taught me the lesson that he who has on his "iron pants," sitting there grinding and grinding away, has a far better chance of winning the contest. Keep on grinding away. That's a valuable life lesson, not only a strategy about how to operate radio contests.

I last saw Laci at the Dayton Airport, about five years ago. There he was, distinctive bushy mustache and a gray sports coat, slacks and tie, smiling broadly and enthusiastically relating in his thick Hungarian accent how he had worked some choice DX recently - on CW, of course. That's what I remember about Laci Radnay, W1PL - his old-world courtliness, seasoned with
overflowing enthusiasm for Ham Radio, this hobby we all love so well.

Rest in Peace, old friend. You were one of a kind. We'll miss you.

Dean, N6BV

=30=

---

On Jan 22, 2008 9:51 PM, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
>
> It couldn't be said better, David. Only had the pleasure of meeting him once, at an FOC dinner in DC. His warmth of personality was exceeded only be his skill as a telegrapher.
>
> 161
>
> Fred - kt5x
>
>

# 839. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: List Roto-Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-23 18:44:24 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 833  Message: 839

Hi, Craig -

Thanks for the inquiry. Yes, I do plan to make and sell them in the near future. The ones that will be available will be the standard size (4" base) and the compact version (3" base). They will be on powder-coated steel or cast-iron bases and have aluminum mechanisms. As of now, I do not have a time schedule or pricing. Since my principal workshop is in an unheated detached garage, things go slowly in the winter. Please check back with me from time to time and/or visit my website http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com .

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: kq6i@...
Sent: Jan 20, 2008 6:51 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: List Roto-Bugs

Rich,
Any plans to build and sell your interesting Roto-Bugs?

Craig
kq6i

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of Richard Meiss
Sent: Sunday, January 20, 2008 1:06 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [DX-IS] Re: List

Hi, Earl and all -

Just checking in to let you all know that i am a faithful "lurker" and will have a post with some
content later in the week. So perhaps lack of postings doesn't really measure the level of interest.

I'll try to put my 2 cents' worth in from time to time.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 840. Re: List Roto-Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-23 22:43:17 UTC
From: Dick Williams
Topic: 833  Message: 840

Rich -

Ever hear the term *kid in a candy store*? Well, after seeing your website, I'm that kid! All I can say is WOW! Absolutely gorgeous collection of homebrew keys. I am so impressed.

Please keep the group advised when they might be ready for sale.

Awesome.

73

Dick Williams KB3OMJ

# 841. Re: [cw_bugs] re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-25 18:43:11 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 760  Message: 841

He's back, but with a variation -- see the following:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=110216710278>

<http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQsassZcaspercoin.com>

Seems to be out in left field...
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

At 07:11 11/30/2007, Earl Needham wrote:
>At 07:03 11/30/2007, Randy Ott wrote:
>
> >This is the 4th time this collection has been listed. It started out
> >with a $2000 starting bid then it went to $1800, $1600, and now $1310.
> >
> >I don't think he has ever had a bid in all 4 tries.
> >
> >Randy
>
>Sounds like he's trying to keep them all together, or maybe
>he thinks 20 different auctions would be too much trouble. There are
>a couple I'd like to have on my shelf, but I don't think I'd pay $100
>for any one of them.

At 08:20 12/1/2007, cloud runner wrote:

>Caspercoin?;
>
>some years ago, he was out bidding (over-paying) everyone on
>essentially common (not particularly collectible) bugs, ammassing a
>dull collection. I think he is a university museum curator. In
>addition, knowing some of the bugs he bought, I know he did a lot of
>questionable cleaning and parts mix and matching, surprising for a
>curator sort. No collector would want his collection. Probably no
>none collector would want to buy a whole collection. Makes the way
>he is selling kinda odd...

# 842. Re: [cw_bugs] re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-25 20:57:25 UTC
From: BPCI@aol.com
Topic: 760  Message: 842

I hope he sells them to somebody for that. It just means mine (Ser. #67xxx) is getting more valuable. Did he sell #1?

Ci Jones, WU7R

-----Original Message-----
From: Earl Needham <earl_needham@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Fri, 25 Jan 2008 11:43 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] re: gee

He's back, but with a variation -- see the following:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=110216710278>

<http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQsassZcaspercoin.com>

Seems to be out in left field...
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

At 07:11 11/30/2007, Earl Needham wrote:
>At 07:03 11/30/2007, Randy Ott wrote:
>
> >This is the 4th time this collection has been listed. It started out
> >with a $2000 starting bid then it went to $1800, $1600, and now
$1310.
> >
> >I don't think he has ever had a bid in all 4 tries.
> >
> >Randy
>
>Sounds like he's trying to keep them all together, or maybe
>he thinks 20 different auctions would be too much trouble. There are
>a couple I'd like to have on my shelf, but I don't think I'd pay $100
>for any one of them.

At 08:20 12/1/2007, cloud runner wrote:

>Caspercoin?;
>
>some years ago, he was out bidding (over-paying) everyone on
>essentially common (not particularly collectible) bugs, ammassing a

>dull collection. I think he is a university museum curator. In
>addition, knowing some of the bugs he bought, I know he did a lot of
>questionable cleaning and parts mix and matching, surprising for a
>curator sort. No collector would want his collection. Probably no
>none collector would want to buy a whole collection. Makes the way
>he is selling kinda odd...

Yahoo! Groups Links

_____
More new features than ever. Check out the new AOL Mail ! -
http://webmail.aol.com

# 843. Re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-25 21:27:19 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 760  Message: 843

Earl,
All other "collections" aside, the "X" models would be a great buy if
you got them all for $3,000. Just my opinion as a non-collector.
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <earl_needham@...> wrote:
>
>
> He's back, but with a variation -- see the following:
>
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?
ViewItem&item=110216710278>
>
> <http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQsassZcaspercoin.com>
>
> Seems to be out in left field...
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
> At 07:11 11/30/2007, Earl Needham wrote:
> >At 07:03 11/30/2007, Randy Ott wrote:
> >
> > >This is the 4th time this collection has been listed. It started
out
> > >with a $2000 starting bid then it went to $1800, $1600, and now
$1310.
> > >
> > >I don't think he has ever had a bid in all 4 tries.
> > >
> > >Randy
> >
> >Sounds like he's trying to keep them all together, or maybe
> >he thinks 20 different auctions would be too much trouble. There
are
> >a couple I'd like to have on my shelf, but I don't think I'd pay
$100
> >for any one of them.
>
> At 08:20 12/1/2007, cloud runner wrote:
>
> >Caspercoin?;

> >
> >some years ago, he was out bidding (over-paying) everyone on
> >essentially common (not particularly collectible) bugs, ammassing
a
> >dull collection. I think he is a university museum curator. In
> >addition, knowing some of the bugs he bought, I know he did a lot
of
> >questionable cleaning and parts mix and matching, surprising for a
> >curator sort. No collector would want his collection. Probably
no
> >none collector would want to buy a whole collection. Makes the
way
> >he is selling kinda odd...
>

# 844. Re: [cw_bugs] re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-25 21:07:11 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 760  Message: 844

At 13:57 1/25/2008, BPCI@... wrote:

>I hope he sells them to somebody for that. It just means mine (Ser.
>#67xxx) is getting more valuable. Did he sell #1?

Dunno -- I did a simple eBay search for "Vibroplex" and just
happened to notice his listings.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 845. Re: [cw_bugs] re: gee

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-01-26 03:45:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 760  Message: 845
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 846. Vibroplex rivetless logo plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-04 19:14:55 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 846  Message: 846

Hello:

I'm currently cleaning up an old Vibroplex bug which is losing its logo/serial# plate. It is the rivetless type and I'm wondering what king of adhesive has worked well for any of you who have already re-attached one. I'm thinking of using 5-minute epoxy unless someone has something better to suggest.

Thanks / 73

Jack - N0NV

# 847. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex rivetless logo plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-04 19:19:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 846  Message: 847

I believe Betsy at Vibroplex said they use Duco cement for affixing the newer non-threaded "plastic decorative pieces" and the new rivet-less plates.

I'd be tempted to use hot glue as it could be pushed down and held for a short period and be stuck. Epoxy offers the problem of too much permanency.

73

DR.

On Feb 4, 2008 2:14 PM, nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> Hello:
>
> I'm currently cleaning up an old Vibroplex bug which is losing its
> logo/serial# plate. It is the rivetless type and I'm wondering what
> king of adhesive has worked well for any of you who have already
> re-attached one. I'm thinking of using 5-minute epoxy unless someone
> has something better to suggest.
>
> Thanks / 73
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 848. Re: Vibroplex rivetless logo plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-04 19:36:48 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 846  Message: 848

Thanks for the quick reply David. Duco should be easy enough to find
and I also have access to a hot glue gun, so I'll give either of those
a try.

Tks/73

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I believe Betsy at Vibroplex said they use Duco cement for affixing
> the newer non-threaded "plastic decorative pieces" and the new
> rivet-less plates.
>
> I'd be tempted to use hot glue as it could be pushed down and held for
> a short period and be stuck. Epoxy offers the problem of too much
> permanency.
>
> 73
>
> DR.
>
>
> On Feb 4, 2008 2:14 PM, nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:
> >
> >
> > Hello:
> >
> > I'm currently cleaning up an old Vibroplex bug which is losing its
> > logo/serial# plate. It is the rivetless type and I'm wondering what
> > king of adhesive has worked well for any of you who have already
> > re-attached one. I'm thinking of using 5-minute epoxy unless someone
> > has something better to suggest.
> >
> > Thanks / 73
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >

> >
> >
>

# 849. Vibroplex Bug Adjustment and Technique

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-05 20:06:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 849  Message: 849

This message is a recap of what I sent in the past.

GOOD BUG SENDING TECHNIQUE

Your wrist is "rocked" with the same motion that you use when opening a door knob, the wrist and are lie on the desk and rock with that motion. The position in which you assume to use the bug would be just like you would grab a door knob or to receive a beverage bottle. You roll your wrist on the fleshy part of your hand back and forth. No finger movements at all!

Finger motions are not to be used as they give carpal tunnel syndrome (glass arm) the idea is to rock the wrist with a bug and cootie key. Unfortunately the paddle used with an electronic keyer must be tapped with fingers at high speeds :(

I know it might be silly to say this, but it is much easier to send when both feet are on the floor not angled to the left or right, but straight and senders body is straight and not turned. It is much easier - try it if you don't believe this.

BUG CLEANING

The following is time consuming but I find it always works and I do this routinely and it takes time but it saves time because it eliminates problems.

If your bug is old, take it completely apart and clean (especially) the contacting surfaces, including the underneath connecting strips (especially around the screws), the countersunk hole for the grounded binding post, the silver contacts, the surface where the U shaped dot spring contacts the vibrator, and the two beveled pins of the trunnion assembly (the pins on which the main lever pivots in the frame), and make sure that the cups into which the pins fit are clean of debris.

I use the cotton wadding with metal polish which is sold nationwide, and a stick pencil type eraser to clean the more stubborn parts and then use Flitz metal polish to finish the metal cleaning. If you have an ultrasonic cleaner (jewelry cleaner) put some ammonia and water in it, with a few drops of Dawn dish cleaner liquid and use for 15 minutes, then repeat with clean water. I dry everything in a toaster oven for 1 hour at 140 degrees F.l

A bug has to swing far enough to compress the U spring - it doesn't send like a paddle - you use your wrist - you shouldn't get tired with this key - if you are, your probably doing it incorrectly. The dash spacing and tension should be adjusted for reliable dashes.

See the "Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy" by N0HFF available several places and in several languages on the Internet for good advice on sending and general tips.

CONTACT ALIGNMENT

Old bugs have a screw which holds the lever against the trunnion post. This can be adjusted up and down. Later bugs do not, and the alignment of the dot contact and the dash contact must be done by adjusting the top and bottom trunnion screws. The bottom trunnion screw is held fast (and will strip unless this screw is loosened) by a screw on the rear side of the frame. You must use a long handled screw driver to get to this screw! Loosen this screw and you will be able to loosen and tighten the bottom trunnion screw and raise and lower the position of the lever.

The lever should be adjusted so that the height of the lever / mainspring / vibrator assembly is such that the contact on the U shaped dot spring is vertically aligned with the dot post contact.

The alignment of the dash contact can be done (after the above is done) by loosening the small contact plate and adjusting.

All final adjustments should be done so that the contacts are touching and completely aligned so that the contacts meet as fully and directly as possible.

DOT ADJUSTMENT

Bugs used for radiotelegraphy vs bugs used for landline telegraphy were set to approximately 60% of a VOM meter reading in resistance.

If your power is 1500 watts key down, it will still be 1500 watts on each dot closure - but the dots will give different meter ballistic movements different results - but rest assured they are still full power.

That being said, dots with a dot/space ratio of about 100:60 OR 1.67:1 will give better copy than dots with a 1:1 ratio during radio conditions on typical hf bands. Or instead of 1.00 to 1 - dots sound better about 1.5 to 1.67 to 1.

CONTACTS

If you buy some silver cleaner you can clean them. If you can find 1500 grit wet/dry sandpaper, you can smooth them out. You can also buy a burnishing tool from GC Electronics for $1.57 which is an extremely fine file that is about 1/4 inch wide and about 1/32 inch thick which was designed especially for that purpose. I use 800 grit wet/dry sandpaper (very lightly and with care) then 1500 grit wet/dry and finally I polish with Flitz metal polish which is a very very low grit polish;. The contacts if done this way will come out like mirrors.

BUG ADJUSTMENT

Old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a significant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and avoiding scratchy and bouncing dots.

The limit screw adjustment for the damper is adjusted just so the end of the swinging pendulum contacts the damper. The bug is also quieter when the damper doesn't move as dramatically.

The dot spring will have more tension than you might be accustomed to. The spring tension returns the lever after sending dots quickly and it also makes the lever move with more force which sets up a stronger impact on the dot spring which results in much stronger and less problematic dots. This is the cure for poor dots if the contacts and the other connections are clean.

HARD TO FIND PROBLEMS

When you have bad dots, the hard to diagnose problems that I've routinely found are: The terminal connectors are loose and the round cylinder shaped nut is not holding the base tightly when the bug sends dots the contact is intermittent. The dot spring is loose on the vibrating arm. When the contacts crash, the spring conducts intermittently. Similar happens for all the contact path on the connecting straps - if one is loose or corroded, it will produce poor dots.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
Former Commercial Radiotelegrapher

# 850. NAQCC February Sprint - Tuesday

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-11 01:12:43 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 850  Message: 850

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for February, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200802.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies, this month's Special Award, etc.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #035

# 851. Run For The Bacon - Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-16 20:05:54 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 851  Message: 851

The February Run for the Bacon is tomorrow night; and this month there is a twist.

Sunday night - February 17th from:
9 - 11 PM EST
8 - 10 PM CST
7 - 9 PM MST
6 - 8 PM PST

This is a 2 hour, fun filled, friendly QRP CW contest open to ALL radio amateurs. Membership in the Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is not required. For the scoop on the details, please go to:

http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

This month, in addition to the normal certificates, there WILL BE A 1ST PLACE PRIZE !!!! I was presented with a lovely Flying Pigs wrist watch; and this will be awarded to the top finisher in tomorrow night's contest! While membership in the Flying Pigs is not required to enter the contest, it IS required if you'd like to have a shot at winning this watch.

Please use the Autolog; and have your entry posted at no later than February 23rd.

Hope to catch you on the bands; and good luck to all!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 852. CW Mailman Weekly Stats for List: cw

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-17 20:44:35 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 852  Message: 852

Congratulations to the lists top posters to cw@.....

CW the premier list for Morse Code over radio!

We may not have quantity, but we have quality!

73
DR

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: root <root@...>
Date: Feb 17, 2008 5:48 PM
Subject: Mailman Weekly Stats for List: cw
To: n1ea@...

Weekly Stats for Mailman list: cw
Home Page: http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw
Owners: n1ea@..., n4xy@...

Membership: 397

Starting: Feb 10 04:14:01
Ending: Feb 17 04:02:22

Total posts: 4
Total SUCCESSFUL posts: 4
Total bytes = 11192

Top 10 posters:
2 n1ea@...,
2 makos327@...,

# 853. I got a chuckle out of this listing!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-20 03:46:07 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 853  Message: 853

Was just perusing eBay to see what's there tonight, and found the following -- I don't know whether it's serious, or something to laugh at --
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>

7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 854. Re: I got a chuckle out of this listing!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-20 13:26:38 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 853  Message: 854

Earl,
All of the other crap in the listing aside, I can't believe that guy had the stones to say:
"I have been in the business over 40 years and most collectors on the East Coast know me.
I have been a Militaria Show promoter most of that time. I am a fair and honorable person."

There outta be a law!
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl_needham@...> wrote:
>
> Was just perusing eBay to see what's there tonight, and found the
> following -- I don't know whether it's serious, or something to laugh
> at --
> <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>
>
> 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
>

# 855. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I got a chuckle out of this listing!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-20 15:13:58 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 853  Message: 855

I didn't even notice that! I was laughing about the CIA
reference -- can you imagine trying to carry a bug to, say, Sofia, in
your luggage and without it being found?!? LOL!!!

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

At 06:26 2/20/2008, k4oso wrote:
>Earl,
>All of the other crap in the listing aside, I can't believe that guy
>had the stones to say:
>"I have been in the business over 40 years and most collectors on the
>East Coast know me.
>I have been a Militaria Show promoter most of that time. I am a fair
>and honorable person."
>
>There outta be a law!
>Milt k4oso
>
>--- In <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com,
>"Earl Needham" <earl_needham@...> wrote:
> >
> > Was just perusing eBay to see what's there tonight, and found the
> > following -- I don't know whether it's serious, or something to laugh
> > at --
> >
> <<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws
/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> > KD5XB

# 856. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I got a chuckle out of this listing!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-02-20 15:39:03 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 853  Message: 856

Maybe spys didn't carry their briefcase transmitter-receivers in carry on luggage?

If anyone wants to pay me to spy on the dressing room of Miss Universe, I am willing to make hourly 40 meter transmissions - except of course at night - or when "lucky".

73

DR
=30=

On Feb 20, 2008 10:13 AM, Earl Needham <earl_needham@...> wrote:
>
> I didn't even notice that! I was laughing about the CIA
> reference -- can you imagine trying to carry a bug to, say, Sofia, in
> your luggage and without it being found?!? LOL!!!
>
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
> At 06:26 2/20/2008, k4oso wrote:
> >Earl,
> >All of the other crap in the listing aside, I can't believe that guy
> >had the stones to say:
> >"I have been in the business over 40 years and most collectors on the
> >East Coast know me.
> >I have been a Militaria Show promoter most of that time. I am a fair
> >and honorable person."
> >
> >There outta be a law!
> >Milt k4oso
> >
> >--- In <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com,
> >"Earl Needham" <earl_needham@...> wrote:
> > >
> > > Was just perusing eBay to see what's there tonight, and found the
> > > following -- I don't know whether it's serious, or something to laugh
> > > at --
> > >
> > <<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230222871209>

> > >
> > > 7 3
> > > Earl
> > > KD5XB
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 857. Re: from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 03:48:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 857  Message: 857

At 14:34 2/29/2008, John Klokis wrote:
>Your full name
>Your City and State
>Your Amateur Radio Callsign ( or the reason you would like to join
>the cw_bugs Yahoogroup
>
>John A. Klokis
>Kulpmont, Pa. 17834
>K3JK
>I have recently made arrangements for a loan of a bug. I would like
>to learn to use a bug. I would appreciate information on operating
>bugs, and making adjustments to the bugs. And I am also looking for
>a good used bug to own. Thanks, John A. Klokis K3JK

Hi, John -- glad to have you. I'm taking the liberty of
forwarding your message to the list, it should generate some
discussion and help get you going.

What kind of bug are you going to borrow?

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 858. Hello cw bug operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 04:29:27 UTC
From: John
Topic: 858  Message: 858

John K3JK here. Operating only 6 years. about 5 on cw. Mostly
Iambic. some straight key also. But the sound of a bug intrigues me.
I am wondering if a bug is tough to operate? As a skill I mean. Is it
timing like the iambic, or is it all in the adjustment of the bug?
If I wire the bug I hope to get as a straight key, like I was told to
operate it on my Jupiter, then the dits must be automatically or
continuously sent. I don't understand this. Does the dits have a
vibrational ongoing contact while the dit side is pressed? I am trying
to understand it mechanically. I know there is not a coil that
energizes a constant contact, so there must be some type of contact
which is constant. But if it is constant, how does each dit end and
begin again? I am looking at pictures and diagrams of bugs and trying
to figure this out. I am a musician, play guitar, so I have good
rhythm on the iambic. But I am not to fast. I probably send from 15
to 18 wpm. Is this an o.k. speed to learn the bug at? Just a few
thoughts on learning to operate a bug.
thanks for reading, John K3JK

# 859. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello cw bug operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 04:38:44 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 858  Message: 859

At 21:29 2/29/2008, John wrote:

>John K3JK here. Operating only 6 years. about 5 on cw. Mostly
>Iambic. some straight key also. But the sound of a bug intrigues me.
>I am wondering if a bug is tough to operate? As a skill I mean.

No, it isn't that hard, it's just different.

> Is it
>timing like the iambic, or is it all in the adjustment of the bug?
>If I wire the bug I hope to get as a straight key, like I was told to
>operate it on my Jupiter, then the dits must be automatically or
>continuously sent. I don't understand this. Does the dits have a
>vibrational ongoing contact while the dit side is pressed? I am trying
>to understand it mechanically. I know there is not a coil that
>energizes a constant contact, so there must be some type of contact
>which is constant. But if it is constant, how does each dit end and
>begin again? I am looking at pictures and diagrams of bugs and trying
>to figure this out.

It's all mechanical -- take a look at
<http://www.ae4rv.com/tn/education/bug.htm> -- the dashes are manual
and the dots are automatic.

> I am a musician, play guitar, so I have good
>rhythm on the iambic. But I am not to fast. I probably send from 15
>to 18 wpm. Is this an o.k. speed to learn the bug at?

That could be slower than your bug will go. Some slow down
well, and some don't, you'll just have to see how it turns
out. You're sure to get other answers here, too, but probably after
the contest ends.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 860. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello cw bug operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 04:50:47 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 858  Message: 860

Hello John,

Welcome to cw_bugs and the fine people we have here. The coffee's always on and the door always open - plus we have a practice room for musicians of Morse!

Your friend meant that you have to plug your bug into a straight key jack, not a keyer jack for a paddle.

Since you come from paddles to bug, I'll tell you the most difficult thing for such who have done this.

While paddles can be adjusted so that you can breath on them and have them send, you need the spacing on the vibrator to be enough for it to swing solidly. Think electric instruments versus manual instruments - you have to pound the piano hard enough for the hammers to hit, but the electronic piano, you can make a switch as sensitive as the paddles. No effort was ever made to reproduce the feel of a bug with paddles.

You can search this groups archives for a message from me which was titled something like "Care, cleaning and adjustment of semi-automatic keys" - just search for n1ea in the archives and you'll probably find it.

Briefly the key to adjusting a bug is:

Strong vibrations of the vibrator.
Accurate striking of the contacts against each other - face to face - full on.
Adjustment of the damper so that the vibrator "just" stops when at rest.

Others have added extra weights and slow down devices. I'm of the old school that learned to send up to 20 wpm on a hand key, then after you mastered that, go on to the bug. I have my reasons for that thinking and it has to do with learning coordination and rhythm.

Posture when gripping the bug is like your picking a piece of lint from a woman's dress in front of you - with the button shaped finger piece and the paddle shaped finger piece inside the "C" of your fingers and thumb.

Then put the heel of your hand on the desk and ROLL the heel of your hand left and right. Don't use your fingers to send - you will not be able to develop rhythm and you will quickly tire with the increased work of using a bug compared to a paddle.

Use the letters VVV to find the right length of dash - compared to the dots you're making.

If you have an analog (old meter display) ohm meter, correct dot to space ratio is about 70% of full scale in the ohms meter range. Connect the leads to the key, short the dash side, adjust the potentiometer on the meter for full scale, then send dots - 60 to 70 percent is about right.

73

David N1EA
Converting electricity to dots and dashes for 43 years on land and sea, amateur and professional.
-30-

On Fri, Feb 29, 2008 at 11:29 PM, John <klokis@...> wrote:
> John K3JK here. Operating only 6 years. about 5 on cw. Mostly
> Iambic. some straight key also. But the sound of a bug intrigues me.
> I am wondering if a bug is tough to operate? As a skill I mean. Is it
> timing like the iambic, or is it all in the adjustment of the bug?
> If I wire the bug I hope to get as a straight key, like I was told to
> operate it on my Jupiter, then the dits must be automatically or
> continuously sent. I don't understand this. Does the dits have a
> vibrational ongoing contact while the dit side is pressed? I am trying
> to understand it mechanically. I know there is not a coil that
> energizes a constant contact, so there must be some type of contact
> which is constant. But if it is constant, how does each dit end and
> begin again? I am looking at pictures and diagrams of bugs and trying
> to figure this out. I am a musician, play guitar, so I have good
> rhythm on the iambic. But I am not to fast. I probably send from 15
> to 18 wpm. Is this an o.k. speed to learn the bug at? Just a few
> thoughts on learning to operate a bug.
> thanks for reading, John K3JK
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 861. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 04:51:35 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 857  Message: 861

John,

I started using bugs about 90 days ago and I have never looked back. I joined the SKCC which introduced me to them (I also use a real straight key too). I now have 2 bugs and working on getting 2 more. So a bit of warning, the things are addictive!! I sold my paddles and keyer and all I use are bugs and straight keys.

They are fun!!

My bugs (so far):
1938 Vibroplex Lightning Bug
1977 Vibroplex Original Deluxe

I plan on getting a Lionel J36 and an original Blue Racer sometime soon.

Jason N8XE

Earl Needham wrote:
> At 14:34 2/29/2008, John Klokis wrote:
>
>> Your full name
>> Your City and State
>> Your Amateur Radio Callsign ( or the reason you would like to join
>> the cw_bugs Yahoogroup
>>
>> John A. Klokis
>> Kulpmont, Pa. 17834
>> K3JK
>> I have recently made arrangements for a loan of a bug. I would like
>> to learn to use a bug. I would appreciate information on operating
>> bugs, and making adjustments to the bugs. And I am also looking for
>> a good used bug to own. Thanks, John A. Klokis K3JK
>>
>
> Hi, John -- glad to have you. I'm taking the liberty of
> forwarding your message to the list, it should generate some
> discussion and help get you going.
>
> What kind of bug are you going to borrow?
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
>
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 862. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-01 06:06:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 857  Message: 862

Jason, with a '38 Vibroplex Lightning Bug, you don't need a Lionel J-36, unless you're a model train collector. The '38 is or should be a "way better" bug. Incidentally, around 1938, the name "Lightning Bug" was introduced - so the original owner either asked for the old name "No. 6 Vibroplex" or he was asking for the new name "Lighting Bug".

Since you already have a classic LB, I'd suggest you go for the classic pre-WW2 Blue Racer. They had a small damper platform with a little wheel - the same wheel your Model 6 has and the LB, Zephyr and Champion have - but it is attached to a small platform. It is a very "rare" damper as only the early Blue Racers used them. They also come on (usually) a 2-1/2 base - the smallest one Vibroplex made - but be sharp - you will occasionally see an odd looking (because of the scaled down parts) that have BR parts on a 3 or 3-1/2 (standard) base - these were available as special order. If I had to order a BR and they were available, I'd order a 3-1/2 inch base variety as they don't tip over when you send heavy dashes!

The Blue Racers (BR) are very fast bugs because they are a scaled down sized version of the Original (except for the damper mentioned). Later on, they truly became a real scaled down Original. Note the current "Blue Racer 2000" is just an Original on a small 2-1/2 inch base.
The slowest speed was about 25 wpm - standard "commercial" speed was around 27 wpm (International Morse). Of course that translates to faster American (landline) Morse.

73

David N1EA

> My bugs (so far):
> 1938 Vibroplex Lightning Bug
> 1977 Vibroplex Original Deluxe
>
> I plan on getting a Lionel J36 and an original Blue Racer sometime soon.
>

# 863. reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 03:11:04 UTC
From: John
Topic: 863  Message: 863

I have been looking at different bugs for sale. I wrote to a guy that even had an extra weight for his Vibroplex to slow it down abit. I may be slow in my sending to use a bug. So I am going to have to experiment on sending. Also, I don"t hear alot of bugs on the air much. One of the comments I have read is that only one in ten bug ops send good, the other nine think they send good. I think thats abit unfair. I think for myself, to copy a bug is alittle harder because of the difference in patterns. I wish I could get that Vibroplex with the extra weight, but don't have the cash yet. A friend has said he would lend me a bug to try. I am going to try and find out what make and model it is and try to get some feedback on it as how to use it. Anyway, I would like to hear some opinions on why you as a ham have changed to a bug, or like using a bug. thanks, John K3JK

# 864. Re: [cw_bugs] reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 03:16:20 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 863  Message: 864

John ,

For $20.00 the Extendadot is a great deal !! I have a Vibroplex Original and it easily slows it down to about 12 WPM !! I got mine at X-mas and it didnt take long to get on the air. I try to send just like to sounds of charcters when sending with my keyboard. starting slow to get the feel is best .

the link for Extendadot is :

www.extendadot.com

I switched from SK to Bug because of some nasty wrist problems I have. In my job I work constantly and also repetative with my hands and been doing the job 28 yrs. The Bug is so much easier on my wrist its amazing !!!

73 es GL , John !!!

George Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
FISTS 12912

----- Original Message -----
From: "John" <klokis@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 01, 2008 10:11 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] reading about bugs

>I have been looking at different bugs for sale. I wrote to a guy that
> even had an extra weight for his Vibroplex to slow it down abit. I
> may be slow in my sending to use a bug. So I am going to have to
> experiment on sending. Also, I don"t hear alot of bugs on the air
> much. One of the comments I have read is that only one in ten bug ops
> send good, the other nine think they send good. I think thats abit
> unfair. I think for myself, to copy a bug is alittle harder because of
> the difference in patterns. I wish I could get that Vibroplex with the
> extra weight, but don't have the cash yet. A friend has said he would
> lend me a bug to try. I am going to try and find out what make and
> model it is and try to get some feedback on it as how to use it.
> Anyway, I would like to hear some opinions on why you as a ham have
> changed to a bug, or like using a bug. thanks, John K3JK
>
>
>
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>

>

# 865. Re: [cw_bugs] reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 03:21:41 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 863  Message: 865

John,

I like using a bug because it is easier on my arm. Using a straight key for a long amount of time makes my forearm sore. I'm sure that means I'm not doing it correctly; but that's the way it is for me. I find using a bug not only easier on the arm; but also quainter. I'm drawn to the nostalgic part of it; and I'm also drawn to the challenge to master it and send good code with it.

I think that if a guy is really proficient using a bug, that you wouldn't be able to tell he's using one. The goal is for good code. Personally, I hope to become good enough that I sound the same whether I'm using a straight key; bug or paddles and keyer.

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com
http://w2lj.blogspot.com/

# 866. Re: [cw_bugs] reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 04:01:05 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 863  Message: 866

Hey John,

I have used the extendadots and they work great. And the price is pretty good too. I get my one key as slow as 15wpm which is a nice comfortable speed for me (for copying).

As for why I made the switch over to bugs:
I joined the Straight Key Century Club back in December. I use a straight key a great deal but I was curious about bugs. I never had much of an interest in them because I thought you had to sound like you had a swing. I personally don't like copying code like that so I avoided bugs (and stations sending that way). I started reading about bugs about 90 days ago and got the opportunity to use one. I fell in love with them right there. I also figured out that good bug ops send good code with little or no swing. I started to pick it up pretty quick. Since then, I purchased two bugs and working on buying two more. I have since sold my bencher paddles and my MFJ keyer. I only use mechanical means to send code.

Plus, bugs are just so darned fun to look at and collect.

Another thing I like about bugs is the history behind them and why they were invented. If you ever get the chance, read through the history about bugs:
http://www.telegraph-history.org/horace-g-martin/index.html
http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/

If you ever want some practice on the air, let me know.

They are fun!

Jason N8XE

John wrote:
> I have been looking at different bugs for sale. I wrote to a guy that
> even had an extra weight for his Vibroplex to slow it down abit. I
> may be slow in my sending to use a bug. So I am going to have to
> experiment on sending. Also, I don"t hear alot of bugs on the air
> much. One of the comments I have read is that only one in ten bug ops
> send good, the other nine think they send good. I think thats abit
> unfair. I think for myself, to copy a bug is alittle harder because of
> the difference in patterns. I wish I could get that Vibroplex with the
> extra weight, but don't have the cash yet. A friend has said he would
> lend me a bug to try. I am going to try and find out what make and
> model it is and try to get some feedback on it as how to use it.
> Anyway, I would like to hear some opinions on why you as a ham have
> changed to a bug, or like using a bug. thanks, John K3JK

>
>
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 867. Re: reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 05:13:51 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 863  Message: 867

John,
I quote from Larry, W2LJ: "I think that if a guy is really proficient using a bug, that you wouldn't be able to tell he's using one."
I use a bug almost exclusively and most times the guy I'm working is VERY surprised to find that out. I also get a lot of comments about how very easy my cw is to copy. To a great extent, I think you sound the way you WANT to sound because if you really want to sound a certain way, you will probably work at it. I work at spacing, continuity and cadence. I never start a word until I'm prepared to finish it. I never run words together. Each word is a nice, neat little package with a ribbon tied around it and presented to the receiving op for his listening pleasure.
How did I get started with bugs? Three years ago when I got my ticket I was using a straight key. But I started developing numbness in my wrist and hand after sending for awhile. This persisted so I finally bought a paddle (Kent Iambic) and keyer (Logikey). Bingo! The numbness went away immediately. BUT...the feeling of satisfaction of creating my own cw left with it. So I tried a bug...an old McElroy, and it was love at first dit. After many joy-filled hours of practice, usually about 20-30 minutes a day, and after almost driving the xyl nuts with the clatter of the damper on the key, I became comfortable enough to go public with my bug. The rest is history however, the practice goes on. For practice not only makes perfect, practice maintains perfect.
I will offer a couple of items of advice. First, please don't think you need a fancy, store-bought gizmo to slow your bug down. There are many items laying about the house/shop that can add additional weight to slow your bug (clothes pins, alligator clips, lead fishing weights, brass/copper tubing, etc). Its limited only by your imagination. The second item of advice is, DON'T SELL/THROW AWAY YOUR PADDLE/KEYBOARD or whatever you're using now to send cw. Whether electronic or mechanical, there are lots of tools that are great for sending cw...and they all have a place on a good cw-man's operating desk.
If you like, contact me via email and I'd be glad to offer any assistance I can to get you started.
Good luck,
73, Milt
K4OSO
SKCC 180T
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "John" <klokis@...> wrote:
>
> I have been looking at different bugs for sale. I wrote to a guy that
> even had an extra weight for his Vibroplex to slow it down abit. I
> may be slow in my sending to use a bug. So I am going to have to
> experiment on sending. Also, I don"t hear alot of bugs on the air

> much. One of the comments I have read is that only one in ten bug ops
> send good, the other nine think they send good. I think thats abit
> unfair. I think for myself, to copy a bug is alittle harder because of
> the difference in patterns. I wish I could get that Vibroplex with the
> extra weight, but don't have the cash yet. A friend has said he would
> lend me a bug to try. I am going to try and find out what make and
> model it is and try to get some feedback on it as how to use it.
> Anyway, I would like to hear some opinions on why you as a ham have
> changed to a bug, or like using a bug. thanks, John K3JK
>

# 868. Re: Hello cw bug operators

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 05:23:18 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 858  Message: 868

Hello John:

Too many people avoid trying anything new that appears to be
difficult. By merely expressing your interest in the bug, you have
already set yourself apart from the rest. Congratulations!

I am also a Ten-Tec Jupiter owner, so I will notify you ahead of time
that the keying circuit in that rig is not forgiving to any dot
contact bounce produced by a typical Vibroplex bug. You are likely to
hear 'choppy dits' being produced both in the Jupiter's sidetone and
RF output. Not to worry, if you set up your bug just like the
Vibroplex instruction sheet says...
http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_adjustments.pdf
...it should sound fine. If not, a capacitor can also be placed
across the key terminals. I settled on a 1 micro-farad value and
haven't noticed any ill effect.

Use the sending method that David, N1EA mentions in the prior post.
Your musical ear will be a good tool in evaluating your own sending.
You will notice that a bug does not automatically finish each dot or
dash that you initiate as an electronic keyer does. This will make
the timing awkward at first, but you will get used to it. This is
also the reason that bug users are less prone to running their letters
too close together, as opposed to paddle/keyer users who are enabled
to get ahead of themselves if they're not careful.

Any other questions, be sure and let us know.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "John" <klokis@...> wrote:
>
> John K3JK here. Operating only 6 years. about 5 on cw. Mostly
> Iambic. some straight key also. But the sound of a bug intrigues me.
> I am wondering if a bug is tough to operate? As a skill I mean. Is it
> timing like the iambic, or is it all in the adjustment of the bug?
> If I wire the bug I hope to get as a straight key, like I was told to
> operate it on my Jupiter, then the dits must be automatically or
> continuously sent. I don't understand this. Does the dits have a
> vibrational ongoing contact while the dit side is pressed? I am trying
> to understand it mechanically. I know there is not a coil that
> energizes a constant contact, so there must be some type of contact
> which is constant. But if it is constant, how does each dit end and
> begin again? I am looking at pictures and diagrams of bugs and trying
> to figure this out. I am a musician, play guitar, so I have good

> rhythm on the iambic. But I am not to fast. I probably send from 15
> to 18 wpm. Is this an o.k. speed to learn the bug at? Just a few
> thoughts on learning to operate a bug.
> thanks for reading, John K3JK
>

# 869. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 05:41:10 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 863  Message: 869

What Milt wrote is so excellent, it bears repeating. Also I second
the statement that K4OSO sounds better than a keyboard!

73
David N1EA - FISTS, SKCC, MTC, VWOA, SOWP, ARRL A1-OP, SOC, ex-FOC, and YMCA.

On Sun, Mar 2, 2008 at 12:13 AM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
I use a bug almost exclusively and most times the guy I'm working is
VERY surprised to find that out. I also get a lot of comments about how
very easy my cw is to copy. To a great extent, I think you sound the
way you WANT to sound because if you really want to sound a certain
way, you will probably work at it. I work at spacing, continuity and
cadence. I never start a word until I'm prepared to finish it. I
never run words together. Each word is a nice, neat little package
with a ribbon tied around it and presented to the receiving op for his
listening pleasure.

# 870. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 05:47:43 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 863  Message: 870

Milt,

You got your ticket three years ago? You sound like you been doing this
a while! HI! Looking forward to working you sometime.

Jason N8XE

k4oso wrote:
> John,
> I quote from Larry, W2LJ: "I think that if a guy is really proficient
> using a bug, that you wouldn't be able to tell he's using one."
> I use a bug almost exclusively and most times the guy I'm working is
> VERY surprised to find that out. I also get a lot of comments about how
> very easy my cw is to copy. To a great extent, I think you sound the
> way you WANT to sound because if you really want to sound a certain
> way, you will probably work at it. I work at spacing, continuity and
> cadence. I never start a word until I'm prepared to finish it. I
> never run words together. Each word is a nice, neat little package
> with a ribbon tied around it and presented to the receiving op for his
> listening pleasure.
> How did I get started with bugs? Three years ago when I got my ticket
> I was using a straight key. But I started developing numbness in my
> wrist and hand after sending for awhile. This persisted so I finally
> bought a paddle (Kent Iambic) and keyer (Logikey). Bingo! The
> numbness went away immediately. BUT...the feeling of satisfaction of
> creating my own cw left with it. So I tried a bug...an old McElroy,
> and it was love at first dit. After many joy-filled hours of practice,
> usually about 20-30 minutes a day, and after almost driving the xyl
> nuts with the clatter of the damper on the key, I became comfortable
> enough to go public with my bug. The rest is history however, the
> practice goes on. For practice not only makes perfect, practice
> maintains perfect.
> I will offer a couple of items of advice. First, please don't think
> you need a fancy, store-bought gizmo to slow your bug down. There are
> many items laying about the house/shop that can add additional weight
> to slow your bug (clothes pins, alligator clips, lead fishing weights,
> brass/copper tubing, etc). Its limited only by your imagination. The
> second item of advice is, DON'T SELL/THROW AWAY YOUR PADDLE/KEYBOARD or
> whatever you're using now to send cw. Whether electronic or
> mechanical, there are lots of tools that are great for sending cw...and
> they all have a place on a good cw-man's operating desk.
> If you like, contact me via email and I'd be glad to offer any
> assistance I can to get you started.
> Good luck,
> 73, Milt
> K4OSO

> SKCC 180T
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 871. Re: [cw_bugs] reading about bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 11:30:26 UTC
From: Adam Taylor
Topic: 863  Message: 871
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 872. appreciation for feedback

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 12:10:08 UTC
From: John
Topic: 872  Message: 872

I want to express my appreciation for the feedback from all who have replied to my posts. I am going to take advantage of practicing with people who have told me that they will practice with me, but I will practice off the air for awhile to get the beginning feel for the bug. And I would like to ask N0NV, Jack if I can get the 1 mico-farad capacitor at radio shack if needed? Getting information and personal opinions from all the bug operators of the group is very interesting. Its like developing a data base for my own reasons about wanting to get into bug use. I will not get rid of any iambics I have. I like the way they sound on my Jupiter. I also have a Icom 718 that I was told does not support bugs. But I do have a straight key jack with it. So I would think I could use the bug with the 718. Probably needs some capaaitors across the terminals of the bug also. And thats another thought. If needed, is this the standard position for the capacitors, across the terminals of the bug? And Am I correct to say the capacitor acts as a isolator between the dits and the dahs? making them clearer as independent signals? I am saving all of these letters in a independent folder, and printing some of them. I hope my friend has gotten the time to ship the bug to me that he told me I could try. Anyway, I will take the time to practice enough to get on the air. I was told already by operators that I send easy to copy code and I have a good fists. Not to fast though, but very readable. So I am going to try and be the same way on the bug. Once again thanks everyone for the excellent feedback. John K3JK

# 873. re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 16:48:06 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 281  Message: 873

Neither the extendadot nor extra (meaning third) weight methods of slowing bugs down are satisfactory to me. both add a lot of mass to the lever arm and completely changes the feel and handling of the bug.

Instead, I suggest the replica of the Hills speed changer made by Tim Soxman and sold by Vibroplex. it has permanent utility because in addition to slowing the bug w-a-y down, it also allows for very quick speed changing at any speed. You put one weight on it, it in itself is about equal to one other weight, so together does not add mass to the lever. when folded back, it places the mass far away from the mainspring so it slows the bug way down, but when folded forward, the bug will go very fast. You will keep using this even after no longer a beginner whereas the extadot is destined for residence in a drawer never to be used again.

The speed changer is particularly at home on an old blue racer with the U-shaped damper because that damper allows the device to fold straight back. In that case it is possible to slow an unruly racer to perhaps 12 wpm.

The slowest bug in the world. while you will become better at both copying and sending code with time and practice, there seem to be many folks who want a slow bug. Well, if you want a slow bug, find and buy a Simplex Auto right angle bug. they are uncommon collector's items from Australia. they use a release mechanism, the opposite approach from that of a Vibroplex, originally invented by Coffe and used on the Mecograph bugs. the Simplex Auto will slow down to something close to ten wpm all by itself. Other slow bugs are the 1938 McElroy which is common, and the Telegraph Aparatus Company (TAC, another McElroy company) Hole-in-the-Wall bug which is common and CHEAP. Just be sure to get one with TWO of the BIG diameter weights on it. the whole reason it slows is the diamter of the weights.

you can find both a speed changer and a Simplex Auto on my website, WWW.KT5X.COM

some folks say that the Simplex Auto is expensive. nonsense. It costs ($300-$400) which is no more than a new deluxe bug from Vibroplex. Difference is, the moment you buy a new bug from Vibroplex, it is now worth half what you bought it for. The antique collector's item, Simplex Auto, is likely to be worth more tomorrow than it is today. The former is a purchase, the latter is an investment.

the 1938 Mac sells for about $150, the TAC hole-in-the-wall bug sells for about fifty dollars.

another hint... if you can buy a junk E f Johnson bug from the fifties with the big diameter slinding weights, put the weights on your Vibroplex. the big diameter allows more weight to be positioned near the end of the lever, and that is what makes all the difference.

TTFN, 73

Fd - kt5x

# 874. from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 19:35:27 UTC
From: John
Topic: 857  Message: 874

Once again I am enjoying the emails I have received from the group. I have found out from my friend that the bug he is loaning me is a Vibroplex with a black base and a chrome top, serial number is: 168981 If anyone knows a manufacturing date or how old this bug is, let me know. He said he thinks it is from the 70's. As far as slowing down the bug. I am going to try and use the bug as is. The only way I will try to slow it down would be if I could not learn it at the lowest speed adjustment of the bug. I understand that bugs are faster cw keyers. From what I have read, 20 and up for the Vibroplex. I really want to thank people who have given me ideas relating to learning the bug. I should have the bug end of this week maybe. I will take a picture of it and post it in the group photos. tnx fer being hr.
John K3JK

# 875. Re: [cw_bugs] from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 19:44:17 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 857  Message: 875

At 12:35 3/2/2008, John wrote:

>Once again I am enjoying the emails I have received from the group. I
>have found out from my friend that the bug he is loaning me is a
>Vibroplex with a black base and a chrome top, serial number is: 168981
>If anyone knows a manufacturing date or how old this bug is, let me
>know. He said he thinks it is from the 70's.

<http://www.vibroplex.com/date_your_vibroplex.html> gives an
estimated build date of 1950 -- but some of the dates might be off a bit.

> As far as slowing down
>the bug. I am going to try and use the bug as is. The only way I will
>try to slow it down would be if I could not learn it at the lowest
>speed adjustment of the bug.

At 09:48 3/2/2008, cloud runner wrote:
>Neither the extendadot nor extra (meaning third) weight methods of
>slowing bugs down are satisfactory to me. both add a lot of mass to
>the lever arm and completely changes the feel and handling of the bug.
>
>Instead, I suggest the replica of the Hills speed changer made by
>Tim Soxman and sold by Vibroplex. it has permanent utility because
>in addition to slowing the bug w-a-y down, it also allows for very
>quick speed changing at any speed. You put one weight on it, it in
>itself is about equal to one other weight, so together does not add
>mass to the lever. when folded back, it places the mass far away
>from the mainspring so it slows the bug way down, but when folded
>forward, the bug will go very fast. You will keep using this even
>after no longer a beginner whereas the extadot is destined for
>residence in a drawer never to be used again.

Vibroplex calls this the Varispeed -- picture at
<http://www.vibroplex.com/accessories.html> toward the bottom. I
have had two of these, I gave one away with a bug to a dear friend
who lost everything in Katrina. The Varispeed works well, just as
described by KT5X, and its indispensable to me when I'm having an off day.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 876. Re: [cw_bugs] from John K3JK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-02 22:35:33 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 857  Message: 876

Hello John -

I got my Vibroplex Anniversary bug for Christmas last year - a gift
from my wife. My Elmer stressed the importance of adjustments and he
gave me a good idea for slowing down the bug until I got used to it.
He told me to open the dit contact all the way and that helped me
tremendously. I have since then closed the contact points a wee bit
as my ability on the bug has improved.

Just thought I would pass this little tid-bit on to you.

73

Rich KB3OMJ

>Once again I am enjoying the emails I have received from the group. I
>have found out from my friend that the bug he is loaning me is a
>Vibroplex with a black base and a chrome top, serial number is: 168981
>If anyone knows a manufacturing date or how old this bug is, let me
>know. He said he thinks it is from the 70's. As far as slowing down
>the bug. I am going to try and use the bug as is. The only way I will
>try to slow it down would be if I could not learn it at the lowest
>speed adjustment of the bug. I understand that bugs are faster cw
>keyers. From what I have read, 20 and up for the Vibroplex. I really
>want to thank people who have given me ideas relating to learning the
>bug. I should have the bug end of this week maybe. I will take a
>picture of it and post it in the group photos. tnx fer being hr.
>John K3JK

# 877. bug users, or semi-automatic I shud say

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 02:21:01 UTC
From: John
Topic: 877  Message: 877

I got some good feedback for the Jupiter I have , using it with a bug. I am reading up on capacitors to help the choppy dits. What kind of voltage is across the terminals of the bug? Would a non-polarized capacitor be alright? Jack, N0NV, has quoted a 1uf for the Jupiter's keying circuit. Radio Shack has them at 5o volts, non-polarized. The voltage rating is probably way to high, but probably doesn't matter. The capacitor tutorial recommended twice the voltage of the circuit, but I don't think this application is what the tutorial was talking about. I know I am way ahead of myself here. But I am collecting data. and want to have things ready for the arrival of my bug. Does anyone have opinions of what kind of capacitors to use and what values have different affects to the sound of the dit circuit? John K3JK

# 878. Re: bug users, or semi-automatic I shud say

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 03:08:15 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 877  Message: 878

John:

Without typing out a mini-course in basic electronics, I can only tell you that the effect of a capacitor will sustain the voltage of the keying circuit during the intermittent periods of the dot contact. I had the luxury of a junk box full of various values to try before I arrived at 1 uF. I possibly could have got by with slightly less.

Don't be getting ahead of yourself. Try to duplicate the 'choppy dit' symptom first, so you know what I'm referring to. Then if necessary, try the adjustment technique -- it might be all you need to do. Then try the capacitor and see if you notice any difference. First things first, Rome wasn't built in a day, etc. etc.

Good luck / 73

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "John" <klokis@...> wrote:
>
> I got some good feedback for the Jupiter I have , using it with a bug.
> I am reading up on capacitors to help the choppy dits. What kind of
> voltage is across the terminals of the bug? Would a non-polarized
> capacitor be alright? Jack, N0NV, has quoted a 1uf for the Jupiter's
> keying circuit. Radio Shack has them at 5o volts, non-polarized. The
> voltage rating is probably way to high, but probably doesn't matter.
> The capacitor tutorial recommended twice the voltage of the circuit,
> but I don't think this application is what the tutorial was talking
> about. I know I am way ahead of myself here. But I am collecting
> data. and want to have things ready for the arrival of my bug. Does
> anyone have opinions of what kind of capacitors to use and what values
> have different affects to the sound of the dit circuit? John K3JK
>

# 880. Re: slowing bugs down

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 04:41:45 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 281  Message: 880

Thanks for sharing your insight.

I second your approval of the Vari-Speed. I was originally skeptical of it because of torsion effects, which I reasoned could rub the dot contact vertically during use, especially considering the thinner main springs currently manufactured into Vibroplex Originals. I notice no bad results, however.

The flat version of the Vari-Speed is especially useful with a Vibroplex Champion model, which has no damper bridge to restrict the position or rotation.

With my configuration, the dot speed is 15 to 28 WPM. If any of you can send 18-20 wpm with a straight key for an hour or more with no ill effects, more power to you -- I can't.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Trail Fox" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> From my observation across (fifty years) of bug use...
>
> * Additional weights so increase the mass of the pendulum as to make operating it both different and non-instructive. during professional use days that simply wasn't done even for learning.
>
> * adding more weights doesn't slow the bug down much because they wind up being placed closer to the pendulum.
>
> * The large diameter weights used by some Mac bugs and E F Johnson have a MUCH better effect on speed becauseit puts more weight further out on the pendulum.
>
> * Wrapping solder around the wieght at the end of the bug will slow the bug down much more than adding a second weight.
>
> Unfortunately, the large diameter weights are harder to come by, and the holes in them don't necessarily fit on vibroplex bugs.
>
> Rather than extensions that add SO much mass and change the feel of the pendulum, or extra weights that do the same thing with relatively little effect on speed, I use the recent remake (by Tim Soxman) of the Hills Speed-changer. vibroplex sells them under the name, Varispeed.
>

> The Varispeed uses one weight, and the device itself is about the equivalent of a second weight. it provides near instant speed changing by rotating the arm. It will slow the bug down way slower than second, third, or fourth weights because by rotating it the small weight can extend the length of the pendulum which does more than adding weight does. in so doing it does not add mass like extra weights or the extension arm.
>
> the Varispeed is the way to go IMHO. Here is a Varispeed on my (restored) 1918 Vibroplex...
>
>
>
> And the very best configuration of all is a Varispeed on the old U-shaped damper blue Racers, because without the damper in the way, the varispeed and its weight can rotate straight back and slow the bug down to a crawl.
>
> A few other comments on bug speed...
>
> The slowest American bugs I have encountered are the 1930's vintage Macs.
>
> The slowest bug I have ever encountered, by far, is the Australian Simplex-Auto. This is a right-angle bug that uses a release mechanism like Coffe's Mecograph of the early 1900's. It will go ten wpm, heaven forbid.
>
> Western Union established a fixed speed of 28 wpm. I have found old bugs with the weight soldered in place at this speed.
>
> With best wishes,
>
> FD - kt5x
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 881. Re: [cw_bugs] appreciation for feedback

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 04:45:59 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 872  Message: 881

Horse Hambergers! The '718 will use a bug. A bug is just an on/off switch like a hand key, and like a sideswiper/cootie key. On, Off, - hey that's Morse code - it just turns on and off.

Any telegraph key or keyer can plug into that jack.

A paddle can only plug into a keyer - which keys the transmitter (thus the name!).

But these days some of the transceivers have built-in keyers - which does confuse people at first!

73
DR

David Ring, N1EA
-30-

On Sun, Mar 2, 2008 at 7:10 AM, John <klokis@...> wrote:
> I want to express my appreciation for the feedback from all who have
> replied to my posts. I am going to take advantage of practicing with
> people who have told me that they will practice with me, but I will
> practice off the air for awhile to get the beginning feel for the bug.
> And I would like to ask N0NV, Jack if I can get the 1 mico-farad
> capacitor at radio shack if needed? Getting information and personal
> opinions from all the bug operators of the group is very interesting.
> Its like developing a data base for my own reasons about wanting to
> get into bug use. I will not get rid of any iambics I have. I like
> the way they sound on my Jupiter. I also have a Icom 718 that I was
> told does not support bugs. But I do have a straight key jack with it.
> So I would think I could use the bug with the 718. Probably needs some
> capaaitors across the terminals of the bug also. And thats another
> thought. If needed, is this the standard position for the capacitors,
> across the terminals of the bug? And Am I correct to say the capacitor
> acts as a isolator between the dits and the dahs? making them clearer
> as independent signals? I am saving all of these letters in a
> independent folder, and printing some of them. I hope my friend has
> gotten the time to ship the bug to me that he told me I could try.
> Anyway, I will take the time to practice enough to get on the air. I
> was told already by operators that I send easy to copy code and I have
> a good fists. Not to fast though, but very readable. So I am going to
> try and be the same way on the bug. Once again thanks everyone for the
> excellent feedback. John K3JK
>
>
>

>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 882. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: bug users, or semi-automatic I shud say

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 04:54:46 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 877  Message: 882

<nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
> John:
> I had the luxury of a junk box full of various > values to try before I arrived at 1 uF. I possibly > could have got by with slightly less.

If you use a 1 mfd (sic) capacitor in a tube transceiver, it will sound like the Big Ben bell sound! Of course, it is 1,000 times the recommended 1 ufd value!

73

DR

# 883. Re: [cw_bugs] appreciation for feedback

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 13:02:41 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 872  Message: 883

You may have to wire the key up to a stereo plug instead of a mono one, i.e., tip and ring, and not connect the second ring up to anything. That is what I had to do for an FT857D.

Jason N8XE

David Ring wrote:
> Horse Hambergers! The '718 will use a bug. A bug is just an on/off
> switch like a hand key, and like a sideswiper/cootie key. On, Off, -
> hey that's Morse code - it just turns on and off.
>
> Any telegraph key or keyer can plug into that jack.
>
> A paddle can only plug into a keyer - which keys the transmitter (thus
> the name!).
>
> But these days some of the transceivers have built-in keyers - which
> does confuse people at first!
>
> 73
> DR
>
> David Ring, N1EA
> -30-
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 884. capacitor

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-03 17:48:44 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 884  Message: 884

The bugs mostly have silve contacts, and silver oxidizes quickly. I find that Radioshack DeOX spray does help with scratchy dots, and it also helps with some paddles, like the Begali paddles without gold contacts.

However: contact bounce... the dit contacts do move across the face of one another. Modern radios can be so fast as to try to follow these microsecond on-off's. That is where the capacitor comes in.

I have a very rare bug, a Bent Dow (only 18 known to exist), and that rascal really produces a split dit that no amount of adjusting would get rid of. But I'll be darned if the 1 ufd cap didn't fix it up.

I put jacks on my bugs. I mount the stereo jack on perfboard, and mount that on the bug terminals with holes in the perfboard, and wire from the jack woven around the hole. Now I can plug one bug in after another easily, and quickly, part of the fun is to use all the collection (ten bugs).

My next project... I plug the bugs into the back of the keyer, then the keyer output and the bug is paralleled to key the radio. Now that I see how useful the cap is on the Bent Dow, I am going to put the cap there in the keyer box, rather than one on every key.

73, Fd - kt5x

# 885. Re: capacitor

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-04 15:21:08 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 884  Message: 885

Thank you for sharing this.

# 886. I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 02:05:27 UTC
From: John
Topic: 886  Message: 886

I got the Vibroplex bug. I am having a terrific time learning how to use it. One of the techniques I find the most control needed for is when you have to hit the dit once softer than you have to hit the dit harder for repeat dits. Like e, i, s, h, 5. then you have to go to the numbers and try to count the dits on 5 thru 8. wow, excellent flow experience. I just hooked it up, read the semi-automatic key adjustment by Brian Murphy, and fired away. Sometimes I will move the dit contact in, but there is a fine line there between what you need to bounce it properly.
SOmetimes it feels to far away, the dit contact. But if I move it in to much , its hard to bounce. Hay, I am having fun. This could be addictive. The bug is from 1950. The chrome is dirty somewhat, and contacts could use some cleaning. I will have to continue to be amazed at this bug and clean it up some. But anyway, who wants to hear about the fun I had with this bug. We will go on from here.
John K3JK

# 887. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 02:12:30 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 886  Message: 887

At 19:05 3/4/2008, John wrote:
>Sometimes I will move the
>dit contact in, but there is a fine line there between what you need
>to bounce it properly.

I'm pretty new with a bug, but I notice the weighting is
affected by the spacing on the dit contact. Once I got that concept
down, it made it a lot easier to get the bug working for me. Instead
of AGAINST me, I mean...

>SOmetimes it feels to far away, the dit contact. But if I move it in
>to much , its hard to bounce. Hay, I am having fun. This could be
>addictive. The bug is from 1950. The chrome is dirty somewhat, and
>contacts could use some cleaning.

Be careful what you clean them with -- I have used a sheet
of typing paper in the past, just put it between the contacts, close
them, and drag the paper out. (I'm sure somebody will chime in here
and tell me I did it wrong, hi!) Just don't use a file, or
sandpaper, or crocus cloth, anything that removes filings.

7 3
Earl
On the road in Los Angeles, without a bug...

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 888. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 08:06:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 886  Message: 888

If you clean your chrome on the bug, just use puff cotton as you'll scratch the chrome easily with anything else. "Fantastic" can be used to clean with a very soft brush. Note: VERY soft. Tooth brushes are out - too stiff. Pastry brushes are ok.

Also - in the archives of the list you'll find instructions on the disassembly of the bug and through cleaning and assembly of it written by myself with others comments included in it.

One important item though - if you ever immerse your bug in water, you must put it in a toaster oven (doesn't everyone has a spare one for cleaning and drying bugs?) and dry it when it is set to "Warm" (180F) for several hours.

73

David

# 889. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 13:08:55 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 886  Message: 889

John,

Excellent! They are a ton of fun. I use the contact cleaner that I got off of EBay which looks like the stuff that Vibroplex sells on their website (I think it is the same stuff). It seems to work. They are not abrasive at all. They look like hard leather.

Keep swiping!

Jason N8XE

John wrote:
> I got the Vibroplex bug. I am having a terrific time learning how to
> use it. One of the techniques I find the most control needed for is
> when you have to hit the dit once softer than you have to hit the dit
> harder for repeat dits. Like e, i, s, h, 5. then you have to go to the
> numbers and try to count the dits on 5 thru 8. wow, excellent flow
> experience. I just hooked it up, read the semi-automatic key
> adjustment by Brian Murphy, and fired away. Sometimes I will move the
> dit contact in, but there is a fine line there between what you need
> to bounce it properly.
> SOmetimes it feels to far away, the dit contact. But if I move it in
> to much , its hard to bounce. Hay, I am having fun. This could be
> addictive. The bug is from 1950. The chrome is dirty somewhat, and
> contacts could use some cleaning. I will have to continue to be
> amazed at this bug and clean it up some. But anyway, who wants to
> hear about the fun I had with this bug. We will go on from here.
> John K3JK
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 890. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 17:58:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 886  Message: 890

Or more accurately it is a fine grit abrasive. Somewhere around 800 grit.

73

DR

On Wed, Mar 5, 2008 at 8:08 AM, Jason Hissong <jhisson1@...> wrote:
> John,
>
> Excellent! They are a ton of fun. I use the contact cleaner that I got
> off of EBay which looks like the stuff that Vibroplex sells on their
> website (I think it is the same stuff). It seems to work. They are not
> abrasive at all. They look like hard leather.
>
> Keep swiping!
>
> Jason N8XE

# 891. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 21:17:03 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 886  Message: 891

Ah ok. Should I stop using them then? I don't want to wear away the silver contacts.

Jason N8XE

On 3/5/08 12:58 PM, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Or more accurately it is a fine grit abrasive. Somewhere around 800 grit.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>

# 892. Re: I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 22:31:47 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 886  Message: 892

On a scale of 1 to 10, typing paper is probably about 1000 grit, or so....so no problem. I uses mine all the time.....keeps the contacts nice and clean.

MIlt k4oso--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Jason Hissong <jhisson1@...> wrote:
>
> Ah ok. Should I stop using them then? I don't want to wear away the silver
> contacts.
>
> Jason N8XE
>
>
> On 3/5/08 12:58 PM, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> > Or more accurately it is a fine grit abrasive. Somewhere around 800 grit.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > DR
> >
>

# 893. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-05 22:57:03 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 886  Message: 893

The way I look at the strip issue is this. I have hundreds of dollars invested in my keys; a bug, straight keys and paddles. For me spending $5.00 on a contact strip from Vibroplex is worth it. No second guessing.

73

Dick
KB3OMJ

>On a scale of 1 to 10, typing paper is probably about 1000 grit, or
>so....so no problem. I uses mine all the time.....keeps the contacts
>nice and clean.
>
>MIlt k4oso--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Jason Hissong <jhisson1@...>
>wrote:
>>
>> Ah ok. Should I stop using them then? I don't want to wear away the
>silver
>> contacts.
>>
>> Jason N8XE
>>
>>
>> On 3/5/08 12:58 PM, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>>
>> > Or more accurately it is a fine grit abrasive. Somewhere around
>800 grit.
>> >
>> > 73
>> >
>> > DR
>> >
>>
>

# 894. Re: [cw_bugs] I got my bug, wow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-06 00:14:09 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 886  Message: 894

Even if you wear them away, the contacts are replaceable. Everything
that cleans anything by friction has abrasion. - even paper.
Vibroplex's warning is for those dingle-brain people who take files to
the silver, or rough sandpaper. You won't believe what people can do
until you look at some of the hair-brained things people have done to
their keys!

73

David N1EA

On Wed, Mar 5, 2008 at 4:17 PM, Jason Hissong <jhisson1@...> wrote:
> Ah ok. Should I stop using them then? I don't want to wear away the silver
> contacts.
>
> Jason N8XE
>
>

# 895. practice to help a beginner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-06 23:21:23 UTC
From: John
Topic: 895  Message: 895

John K3JK, can anyone practice at least once with me, with the bug, to see what I sound like. I live in central Pa. I have a dipole and a vertical. around 7 or 8 would be good in the evening. Someone maybe around Pa.? Thanks, John K3JK

# 896. Re: [cw_bugs] practice to help a beginner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-07 12:01:08 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 895  Message: 896

Hey John,
I'm in Virginia. Would be glad to practice with you if we can reach each other.
Milt
k4oso

**********It's Tax Time! Get tips, forms, and advice on AOL Money & Finance. (http://money.aol.com/tax?NCID=aolprf00030000000001)

# 897. continuing my journey with the bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-07 23:23:45 UTC
From: John
Topic: 897  Message: 897

I put the capacitor back on the Jupiter to try and see if it makes a difference. I might practice with some people, so I will get some feed back. Didn't start cleaning the bug yet, it really needs it. The chrome is dull. I might try some fantastic with some cotton swabs. Anyway, I have been practicing with the bug most of the week. I tried the iambic paddles last night. It is really different once you start using a bug, let me tell you. My call is K3JK, and I find the number three alittle difficult to separate the dits and the two dahs without running them together. Practice, practice, practice. I tried the phone book also, now thats interesting. Later, John

# 898. Before Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-13 22:56:14 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 898  Message: 898

http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/before_spark.jpg

:-)

Jack - N0NV

# 899. Re: [cw_bugs] Before Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-14 11:16:59 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 898  Message: 899

Excellent Jack.
Keep smiling,
73, Ron g3xov

nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:

http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/before_spark.jpg

:-)

Jack - N0NV

# 901. RadioTelegraphy Forum

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-14 22:55:24 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 901  Message: 901

I am experimenting with a new forum called the RadioTelegraphy Forum. It is not designed to take away from any of the operating groups, such as SKCC, Flying Pigs, etc. Rather, it is a place to talk only about the hardware used for telegraphy. It is not a place to talk about awards, skeds, or contacts.

I know it is a pain to get onto a new forum, you have to create a log-in in order to post. But, I would sure appreciate it if some of you folks would go to http://forum.radiotelegraphy.net/phpbb3 and try it.

The experiment will last for a few days to check operation and to ascertain if there is sufficient usage to support the effort.

It is my hope that some of the specialized Yahoo Groups involving keys could be eliminated. Then, you can make a daily check of one forum instead of several groups, archieves, etc. One stop shoping - as I have meant RadioTelegraphy.net to be.

See what you think and get the word out if you like the idea. If you don't like the idea - by all means tell me. This idea is for the users - I don't get anything but work out of it.

I have not placed a link yet on http://www.radiotelegraphy.net, but will later today.

# 902. practicing with a few guys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-14 23:53:52 UTC
From: John
Topic: 902  Message: 902

i have had contacts with a few different bug operators from the group and it was great to work the bug for 20 minutes to a half an hour. I really think the bug is tougher to operate than iambic. I am not taking away anything from the iambic users. In my humble opinion, which I am still wet behind the ears when it comes to ham radio, iambic users can really go fast for contests and chasing dx. There are probably bug users that could go maybe just as fast, but I am not one of them, and maybe not ever will be. But I am riveted to the bug paddles every moment to get the bounce pressure with the dits. Maybe I haven't operated it to long yet for it to become second nature. I bet you I will have alot of fun trying to get my own rhythm down for the bug. Anyway, thanks every one who practiced with me. If anyone wants to practice one time or maybe once in a while, give me an email: klokis@verizon.net I just would like to get in the zone once in a while to leave this planet and its cares behind, hi hi.....John K3JK

# 903. Vari-Speed Demo Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-16 10:35:21 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 903  Message: 903

I put together a demo clip of Vibroplex's Vari-Speed.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHicOuHmarU

Sorry the audio isn't better. I only have a pocket-sized digital camera with movie clip capability.

Jack - N0NV

# 904. Re: [cw_bugs] Vari-Speed Demo Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-16 12:57:32 UTC
From: David H. Walker
Topic: 903  Message: 904

If I could only send like that I might have longer QSO"s. I think my
left foot is better then my right foot,HI
73
David :-) K0cop

nzeronv wrote:
>
>
>
> I put together a demo clip of Vibroplex's Vari-Speed.
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHicOuHmarU
> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHicOuHmarU>
>
> Sorry the audio isn't better. I only have a pocket-sized digital
> camera with movie clip capability.
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>

--
David H. Walker
ARS: K0COP
Aiken, SC
dhwalker@...
Time= utc
Mobile Phone: 803 600 0293
EFax:1-800-776-6694

# 905. RE: [cw_bugs] Vari-Speed Demo Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-16 21:46:32 UTC
From: kq6i@arrl.net
Topic: 903  Message: 905

Music to my ears, very nice.

Craig
kq6i

-----Original Message-----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of nzeronv
Sent: Sunday, March 16, 2008 4:35 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vari-Speed Demo Video

I put together a demo clip of Vibroplex's Vari-Speed.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHicOuHmarU

Sorry the audio isn't better. I only have a pocket-sized digital
camera with movie clip capability.

Jack - N0NV

# 906. RFTB - tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-16 23:31:23 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 906  Message: 906

The March Run for the Bacon is tonight; and I apologize for the short notice! I just now realized today is the 3rd Sunday of the month!

Sunday night - March 16th from:
9 - 11 PM EDT
8 - 10 PM CDT
7 - 9 PM MDT
6 - 8 PM PDT

This is a 2 hour, fun filled, friendly QRP CW contest open to ALL radio amateurs. Membership in the Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is not required. For the scoop on the details, please go to:

http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

This month, in addition to the normal certificates, there WILL BE A 1ST PLACE PRIZE !!!! This month's top place scorer (who has not qualified for winning a prize so far in 2008) will win a set of Flying Pigs coasters! You can quaff a few brews and prevent your beer glass/mug from damaging your table.

Please use the Autolog; and have your entry posted at no later than March 23rd.

Hope to catch you on the bands; and good luck to all!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 907. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-18 01:13:33 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 907  Message: 907

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for March, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200803.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies, this month's Special Award, which will be dedcated to those of us who use indoor antennas

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #035

# 908. new bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-18 19:50:12 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 908  Message: 908

Finally found a bug I liked and bought it.Its a vibroplex lightning made around 1950. Also ordered an extend a dot to slow it down.I tried a bug out about 20yrs ago but could not get the hang of it.Now that I am retired and have more time I thought I would give it another go.Am looking forward to putting it on the air after some practice.
K5jyd Larry

# 909. Re: new bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-19 06:06:07 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 908  Message: 909

Congratulations Larry. The Lightning should be a good one to learn
with. I recommend this guide to shorten the learning curve:
http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_adjustments.pdf

Have fun

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry" <k5jyd@...> wrote:
>
> Finally found a bug I liked and bought it.Its a vibroplex lightning
> made around 1950. Also ordered an extend a dot to slow it down.I tried
> a bug out about 20yrs ago but could not get the hang of it.Now that I
> am retired and have more time I thought I would give it another go.Am
> looking forward to putting it on the air after some practice.
> K5jyd Larry
>

# 910. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: new bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-19 18:29:33 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 908  Message: 910

Thanks jack for the guide.
I think this bug is going to be fun
k5jyd
--- nzeronv <nzeronv@...> wrote:

>
>
> Congratulations Larry. The Lightning should be a
> good one to learn
> with. I recommend this guide to shorten the
> learning curve:
>
http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_adjustments.pdf
>
> Have fun
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Larry" <k5jyd@...>
> wrote:
> >
> > Finally found a bug I liked and bought it.Its a
> vibroplex lightning
> > made around 1950. Also ordered an extend a dot to
> slow it down.I tried
> > a bug out about 20yrs ago but could not get the
> hang of it.Now that I
> > am retired and have more time I thought I would
> give it another go.Am
> > looking forward to putting it on the air after
> some practice.
> > K5jyd Larry
> >
>
>
>

---
Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your home page.
http://www.yahoo.com/r/hs

# 911. Re: [cw_bugs] new bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 01:27:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 908  Message: 911

At 01:50 PM 3/18/2008, Larry wrote:

>Finally found a bug I liked and bought it.Its a vibroplex lightning
>made around 1950. Also ordered an extend a dot to slow it down.I tried
>a bug out about 20yrs ago but could not get the hang of it.Now that I
>am retired and have more time I thought I would give it another go.Am
>looking forward to putting it on the air after some practice.
>K5jyd Larry

Gotta have a picture!

7 3 & congrats!
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 912. bug photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 16:04:46 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 912  Message: 912

Just uploaded a picture of my latest purchase, a
lightning bug
k5jyd

---
Looking for last minute shopping deals?
Find them fast with Yahoo! Search.
http://tools.search.yahoo.com/newsearch/category.php?category=shopping

# 913. Re: [cw_bugs] bug photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 16:13:58 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 912  Message: 913

At 10:04 AM 3/20/2008, Larry wrote:

>Just uploaded a picture of my latest purchase, a
>lightning bug
>k5jyd

It looks to be in pretty good shape!

If you're really itching to slow it down more and use it
right away, and your Extend-a-dot hasn't arrived yet, you can simply
add weight to the square weight that's already on there. I wouldn't
suggest that as a permanent fix, but for the time being it should
help. Maybe an alligator clip, or wrap it with some solder, or whatever.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 914. Re: [cw_bugs] bug photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 16:19:23 UTC
From: Larry
Topic: 912  Message: 914

Thanks Earl thats a good idea. I haven't used a bug in
30years so I need to practice. I will probably run the
bug with my left and run paddles with my right.My
right hand is trained to use paddles with the dash on
the thumb and I think this bug has dits on the
thumb.the bug has not arrived yet but should be here
any day.
k5jyd
--- Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:

> At 10:04 AM 3/20/2008, Larry wrote:
>
> >Just uploaded a picture of my latest purchase, a
> >lightning bug
> >k5jyd
>
> It looks to be in pretty good shape!
>
> If you're really itching to slow it down
> more and use it
> right away, and your Extend-a-dot hasn't arrived
> yet, you can simply
> add weight to the square weight that's already on
> there. I wouldn't
> suggest that as a permanent fix, but for the time
> being it should
> help. Maybe an alligator clip, or wrap it with some
> solder, or whatever.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
>
>

---
Looking for last minute shopping deals?
Find them fast with Yahoo! Search.
http://tools.search.yahoo.com/newsearch/category.php?category=shopping

# 915. Re: [cw_bugs] bug photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 18:56:44 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 912  Message: 915

Another way to add weight is to take a PL259 plug and unscrew it so that you see the place where you would solder the braid. Keep on unscrewing it until you have a space between the end of the cap and the edge of the plug wide enough so that the knurled nut of the weight will fit inside.

Put that knurled nut inside that gap and tighten up a bit.

Works very well - and most hams have a few dead PL259´s around the junk box.

73
DR

On Thu, Mar 20, 2008 at 12:13 PM, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
> If you're really itching to slow it down more and use it
> right away, and your Extend-a-dot hasn't arrived yet, you can simply
> add weight to the square weight that's already on there. I wouldn't
> suggest that as a permanent fix, but for the time being it should
> help. Maybe an alligator clip, or wrap it with some solder, or whatever.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>

# 916. Bugs and Telegraphy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-03-20 19:03:02 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 916  Message: 916

Hi Everyone:

I have been monitoring some of the threads here on the forum, and today it hit me that some of you might be interested in the following events:

As many of you know, the "bug" was the preferred tool of the Morse (land-line) telegrapher from its inception until the last commercial Morse circuits in the US and Canada closed in the 1970s and 1980s. The Bug is ideally suited for use with the American Morse Code, which was the version of Morse utilized by land-line operators in North America; the nature of American Morse being such that it contained three different length "dashes."

Periodically, Morse operators gather from around the US and Canada for various events. One such event is the annual "Morse Day", which takes place on the last Saturday of April in honor of Samuel Morse's birthday. During this event, Morse Telegraph Club Chapters throughout the US and Canada are linked together via a nationwide telegraph hub system, which permits land-line Morse communications between multiple offices using standard telegraph instruments.

Another event, which will take place in 2008, is the International Telegraphers Reunion at Montreal, Quebec on May 31. Telegraphers from throughout the US and Canada will gather for a meeting and telegraph demonstrations.

At the 2006 International Telegraphers Reunion at Dearborn, Michigan, we had a telegraph office set up with multiple operating positions going "full-out" all evening long. It was quite an experience to see former railroad and commercial telegraphers burning up the wire as they renewed friendships and conversed at a good rate of speed! Just the sound of multiple telegraph sounders operating simultaneously in the same room created an atmosphere, which was like taking a step back into the past. Of course, every operating position had a bug!

The reason I mention these events here is that the participants in this group obviously have an interest in Bugs, and many undoubtedly have an interest in the history of Morse and radiotelegraphy. These events provide a rare (and diminishing) opportunity to meet individuals who were actually employed in the telegraph industry and a rare opportunity to see the use of a bug in the hands of a skilled operator.

For more information on these events, feel free to contact me. You may also let your "fingers do the walking" by visiting the Morse Telegraph Club website at:

www.morsetelegraphclub.org

For some insights into the activities of a typical active Morse Telegraph Club Chapter, visit: www.floridamorse.com (By the way, the "album" section is particularly fun!)

I hope this was of interest to some of you, and 73!

Jim, K8SIW

--
James Wades
International President
Morse Telegraph Club
611 East Park St. No. 110
Carbondale, IL. 62901

618-457-0218

# 917. New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-03 15:35:55 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 917  Message: 917

I just discovered this group (thanks Jack!) and thought I'd send out a hello. I'm a somewhat newer ham, licensed 5 years, and just recently started using a bug. After cleaning and restoring the Lionel bug at http://udel.edu/ham/bug/ I figured I ought to learn to use it! The weight is set towards the slower end, maybe 22 wpm or so, and I'm getting the hang of it slowly but surely. Thanks to a QST bug adjustment article at Vibroplex.com I now have the bug set to just the right feel for me.

Anyway, hope to run into some of you on the air...and not scare you away with my fist! :-)

73,
Mike ab3ap

# 918. Re: [cw_bugs] New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-03 15:39:02 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 917  Message: 918

Mike Markowski wrote:
> [...] After cleaning and restoring the Lionel bug at http://udel.edu/ham/bug/ [...]

Oops, make that: http://udel.edu/~mm/ham/bug/

# 919. Re: [cw_bugs] New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-03 20:31:07 UTC
From: John Klokis
Topic: 917  Message: 919

Hi Mike, this is John K3JK, I just started using a bug about a month ago. Would you like to try and practice seomtime? I live in Kulpmont, Pa. Northumberland County. Where is your QTH?
I have a dipole and a vertical.
John K3JK

----- Original Message -----
From: Mike Markowski
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2008 10:35 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] New member hello

I just discovered this group (thanks Jack!) and thought I'd send out a hello. I'm a somewhat newer ham, licensed 5 years, and just recently started using a bug. After cleaning and restoring the Lionel bug at http://udel.edu/ham/bug/ I figured I ought to learn to use it! The weight is set towards the slower end, maybe 22 wpm or so, and I'm getting the hang of it slowly but surely. Thanks to a QST bug adjustment article at Vibroplex.com I now have the bug set to just the right feel for me.

Anyway, hope to run into some of you on the air...and not scare you away with my fist! :-)

73,
Mike ab3ap

# 920. Re: New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-04 13:55:09 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 917  Message: 920

Nice work Mike!

If you are interested, there is an upload in the 'files' section
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/ called
"New_Lionel_J36_label.gif". You could print it to a size which
matches the rivets on your Lionel bug, then laminate it and install it
on the rivets (if someone knows a better method, please chime in).

Again, nice job!

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@...> wrote:
>
> Mike Markowski wrote:
> > [...] After cleaning and restoring the Lionel bug at
http://udel.edu/ham/bug/ [...]
>
> Oops, make that: http://udel.edu/~mm/ham/bug/
>

# 921. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-04 14:13:35 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 917  Message: 921

At 07:55 AM 4/4/2008, nzeronv wrote:
>Nice work Mike!

Yeah, I agree! I have one that looks like the column on the
left! <G>

I've been thinking about cleaning it up and making it look
nicer, but there's never any time to do anything but drive the
truck. Maybe one day...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 922. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New member hello

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-05 02:42:41 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 917  Message: 922

Earl Needham wrote:
> At 07:55 AM 4/4/2008, nzeronv wrote:
>> Nice work Mike!
>
> Yeah, I agree! I have one that looks like the column on the
> left! <G>

Thanks, guys! It really wasn't hard to clean. All the "before" photos were used to help me put the bug back together after completely disassembling it. I soaked the metal parts in cleaning solution used by watchmakers and then gently got rid of what little dirt remained with a soft brush. After just as gently cleaning the base (not with the watch cleaner) I used black shoe polish on it.

Now I'll print out the image you pointed me to, Jack, to give it a more authentic look.

73,
Mike ab3ap

# 923. contact cleaning ?????

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-05 16:13:20 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 923  Message: 923

I was wondering since I dodnt have any of the Vibroplex cleaner what is a good contact cleaner for Bugs ????

Thanks !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

# 924. Re: contact cleaning ?????

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-05 16:31:21 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 923  Message: 924

George,
Before I ordered the contact cleaning strip on ebay, I used a piece of cardboard, construction paper, or even regular notebook paper. While not quite as long-lasting as the strips, they do a good job. After all, what you're trying to do is use a slightly abrasive surface to rub off the oxidation on the contacts. Good luck....and just order some strips on ebay.
73,
Milt
k4oso
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "George Osier" <gosier@...> wrote:
>
> I was wondering since I dodnt have any of the Vibroplex cleaner what is a
> good contact cleaner for Bugs ????
>
> Thanks !!!!
>
> George , N2JNZ
> SKCC 2836T
>

# 925. Re: [cw_bugs] contact cleaning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-05 18:20:00 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 925  Message: 925

Hi George:

I utilize relay contact burnishing tools of the type manufactured by GC Electronics and others. Here is an on-line depiction of a typical version :

http://www.mcmelectronics.com/product/22-910

These are readily available through electronics and telecomm parts jobbers and the like. I bought four of them at RS Electronics in Detroit some years back for a buck or so each. That way, I could leave one or two around the office and toss one or two in with my portable telegraph equipment. One thing I have noticed is that they develop a life of their own and wander away, sort of like reading glasses. In the later case, I have a half dozen pair laying around the house so I can see while waiting for the two or three I have misplaced to turn up. LOL. The small burnishing tools are about the same. LOL.

As some other have suggested, certain types of paper products work well also, such as a good quality bond paper folded over and inserted between the contacts.

73!

Jim Wades
K8SIW

"I was wondering since I dodnt have any of the Vibroplex cleaner
what is a good contact cleaner for Bugs ????

Thanks !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

# 926. Right angle VizBug on eBay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-07 00:21:35 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 926  Message: 926

http://cgi.ebay.com/Right-angle-Morse-Telegraph-Key-VizKey_W0QQitemZ250233440224QQihZ015QQcategoryZ48706QQssPageNameZWDVWQQrdZ1QQcmdZViewItem

I have one of these and my opinion is the VizBug is the best bug available. Understand - I am not impressed by loads of chrome or trusted "old" names. I am impressed by the way the key operates - which is wonderful.

# 927. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-07 23:30:38 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 927  Message: 927

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for April, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel//sprint200804.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies, this month's Special Award, which will be awarded to the highest place scorer to make at least 5 or more contacts on EACH band (80, 40, 20 Meters).

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #035

# 928. Tomorrow night is RFTB !!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 02:00:34 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 928  Message: 928

Tomorrow night is "Run For The Bacon" night. The monthly QRP Sprint sponsored by the Flying Pigs QRP Club International.

For full details, please visit http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP #612

# 929. VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 13:44:14 UTC
From: n2yhq
Topic: 929  Message: 929

Gang:
Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.

73
Marcelo

# 930. Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 14:08:28 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 929  Message: 930

FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit but my favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!

Good luck and have fun !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here

----- Original Message -----
From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:44 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

> Gang:
> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>
> 73
> Marcelo
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 931. Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 14:26:08 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 929  Message: 931

Marcelo,George,
Marcelo, If you don't like it, throw it over here, I've
just got room for it on the desk !!!.
Ron g3xov.
Original Standard
Blue Racer 2000
SKCC 2880
Fists 12572

George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit but my
favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!

Good luck and have fun !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here

----- Original Message -----
From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:44 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

> Gang:
> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>
> 73
> Marcelo
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 932. Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 14:31:35 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 929  Message: 932

Marcelo, George, & all,

Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a review. It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new buyers' impressions.

I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of about 3 to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold at 25% off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I called and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at Vibroplex says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I almost said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her words, "But the boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten round." So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to verify this but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if anyone is interested.

Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think with the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At least with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes pretty slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)

73,
Mike ab3ap

George Osier wrote:
> FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit but my
> favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
> shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
>
> Good luck and have fun !!!!
>
> George , N2JNZ
> SKCC 2836T
> Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
>> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
>> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>>
>> 73
>> Marcelo

# 933. Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 15:13:43 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 929  Message: 933

Hi Ron !!!

LOVE THE BUG !!!!! Would never go back to straight key !!!!! Got bad wrists here so the Bug is perfect !!!!

73

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
FISTS 12912
----- Original Message -----
From: Ron Johnson
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 10:26 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Marcelo,George,
Marcelo, If you don't like it, throw it over here, I've
just got room for it on the desk !!!.
Ron g3xov.
Original Standard
Blue Racer 2000
SKCC 2880
Fists 12572

George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit but my
favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!

Good luck and have fun !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here

----- Original Message -----
From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:44 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

> Gang:
> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>
> 73

> Marcelo
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 934. Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 17:25:13 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 929  Message: 934

Hi George,
Sorry to hear about your wrists.I've got a bad brain It's
called Old Age Syndrome and using the bugs helps to stop it
getting worse Hi.Also get the satisfaction of " Do it Yourself "
rather than using a paddle to switch a box of tricks on and off!
Keep smiling,
Ron g3xov

George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
Hi Ron !!!

LOVE THE BUG !!!!! Would never go back to straight key !!!!! Got bad wrists here so the Bug is perfect !!!!

73

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
FISTS 12912
----- Original Message -----
From: Ron Johnson
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 10:26 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Marcelo,George,
Marcelo, If you don't like it, throw it over here, I've
just got room for it on the desk !!!.
Ron g3xov.
Original Standard
Blue Racer 2000
SKCC 2880
Fists 12572

George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit but my
favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!

Good luck and have fun !!!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T
Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here

----- Original Message -----
From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>

To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:44 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

> Gang:
> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>
> 73
> Marcelo
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 935. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-04-20 17:55:53 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 929  Message: 935

Ahhhhh bugs!!!
Is there any other type of key?
Well,.....yes.....But not for me! Let the bugs sing!
PS: I've given up on gizmos to slow down my bugs.....If spacing
won't take care of it, I just used it like a straight key....A MUCH
BETTER SOLUTION, IMHO. Besides, speed control devices are like
training wheels....one shouldn't plan to keep them on forever.
73, Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:
>
> Hi George,
> Sorry to hear about your wrists.I've got a bad
brain It's
> called Old Age Syndrome and using the bugs helps to stop it
> getting worse Hi.Also get the satisfaction of " Do it Yourself "
> rather than using a paddle to switch a box of tricks on and off!
> Keep smiling,
> Ron g3xov
>
>
>
> George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
> Hi Ron !!!
>
> LOVE THE BUG !!!!! Would never go back to straight key !!!!! Got
bad wrists here so the Bug is perfect !!!!
>
> 73
>
> George , N2JNZ
> SKCC 2836T
> FISTS 12912
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Ron Johnson
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 10:26 AM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe
>
>
> Marcelo,George,
> Marcelo, If you don't like it, throw it
over here, I've
> just got room for it on the desk !!!.
> Ron g3xov.

> Original Standard
> Blue Racer 2000
> SKCC 2880
> Fists 12572
>
>
>
> George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
> FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a
bit but my
> favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles
it
> shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
>
> Good luck and have fun !!!!
>
> George , N2JNZ
> SKCC 2836T
> Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Sunday, April 20, 2008 9:44 AM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe
>
> > Gang:
> > Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to
slow it
> > down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
> >
> > 73
> > Marcelo
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
>

# 936. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 15:38:06 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 929  Message: 936

Mike:

Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
after it arrives.

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@...> wrote:
>
> Marcelo, George, & all,
>
> Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a review.
> It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new buyers'
> impressions.
>
> I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of
about 3
> to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold at 25%
> off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I called
> and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at Vibroplex
> says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I almost
> said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her words, "But the
> boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten round."
> So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to verify
this
> but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if
anyone is
> interested.
>
> Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think with
> the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At least
> with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes pretty
> slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)
>
> 73,
> Mike ab3ap
>
> George Osier wrote:
> > FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit
but my
> > favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
> > shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
> >
> > Good luck and have fun !!!!
> >
> > George , N2JNZ

> > SKCC 2836T
> > Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
> > ----- Original Message -----
> > From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
> >> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
> >> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
> >>
> >> 73
> >> Marcelo
>

# 937. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 15:43:54 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 929  Message: 937

Mike -

My XYL got me the Anniversary bug for Christmas '07 and I am unable to find any blemishes at all. I think you will be well pleased. It's gorgeous.

73

Dick KB3OMJ

>
>
>Mike:
>
>Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
>after it arrives.
>
>Jack - N0NV
>
>
>
>
>--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@...> wrote:
>>
>> Marcelo, George, & all,
>>
>> Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a review.
>> It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new buyers'
>> impressions.
>>
>> I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of
>about 3
>> to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold at 25%
>> off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I called
>> and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at Vibroplex
>> says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I almost
>> said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her words, "But the
>> boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten round."
>> So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to verify
>this
>> but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if
>anyone is
>> interested.
>>
>> Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think with
>> the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At least

>> with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes pretty
>> slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)
>>
>> 73,
>> Mike ab3ap
>>
>> George Osier wrote:
>> > FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a bit
>but my
>> > favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used paddles it
>> > shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
>> >
>> > Good luck and have fun !!!!
>> >
>> > George , N2JNZ
>> > SKCC 2836T
>> > Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
>> > ----- Original Message -----
>> > From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
>> >> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow it
>> >> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>> >>
>> >> 73
>> >> Marcelo
>>
>

# 938. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 15:59:57 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 929  Message: 938

Dick,
That 100th Anniversary is real "eye candy", eh? I "acquired" a very
lightly used one a short time ago. Mine has the jewelled mainframe
and red fingerpieces. Really adds sparkle to the operating desk.
73, Milt
k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, hermit <hermit@...> wrote:
>
>
> Mike -
>
> My XYL got me the Anniversary bug for Christmas '07 and I am unable
to
> find any blemishes at all. I think you will be well pleased. It's
> gorgeous.
>
> 73
>
> Dick KB3OMJ
>
> >
> >
> >Mike:
> >
> >Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
> >after it arrives.
> >
> >Jack - N0NV
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@> wrote:
> >>
> >> Marcelo, George, & all,
> >>
> >> Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a
review.
> >> It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new
buyers'
> >> impressions.
> >>
> >> I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of
> >about 3

> >> to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold
at 25%
> >> off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I
called
> >> and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at
Vibroplex
> >> says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I
almost
> >> said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her
words, "But the
> >> boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten
round."
> >> So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to
verify
> >this
> >> but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if
> >anyone is
> >> interested.
> >>
> >> Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think
with
> >> the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At
least
> >> with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes
pretty
> >> slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)
> >>
> >> 73,
> >> Mike ab3ap
> >>
> >> George Osier wrote:
> >> > FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a
bit
> >but my
> >> > favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used
paddles it
> >> > shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
> >> >
> >> > Good luck and have fun !!!!
> >> >
> >> > George , N2JNZ
> >> > SKCC 2836T
> >> > Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
> >> > ----- Original Message -----
> >> > From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@>
> >> >> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to
slow it
> >> >> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
> >> >>
> >> >> 73

```
> >> >> Marcelo
> >>
> >
>
```

# 939. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 17:27:58 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 929  Message: 939

I'll definitely do that, Jack. Since it's been 4+ weeks now, I couldn't resist asking Vibroplex about it yesterday. The new estimate for shipping is Friday, May 9, a week from today. Hopefully you'll see a note from me in the days shortly following. Remember ordering things off a cereal box as a kid and running to the mail box every day? I'm reliving that! From experiences of Dick KB3OMJ and Milt K4OSO, I expect I'll be saying good things about the bug.

73,
Mike ab3ap

nzeronv wrote:
>
> Mike:
>
> Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
> after it arrives.
>
> Jack - N0NV

# 940. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 17:33:43 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 929  Message: 940

Hi Milt -

Mine is the jeweled version as well. I opted for the black finger pieces.

I have been looking hard at the VizKey for quite awhile now. Think maybe I'm gonna have me one of those soon. Hi.

73

>Dick,
>That 100th Anniversary is real "eye candy", eh? I "acquired" a very
>lightly used one a short time ago. Mine has the jewelled mainframe
>and red fingerpieces. Really adds sparkle to the operating desk.
>73, Milt
>k4oso
>
>--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, hermit <hermit@...> wrote:
>>
>>
>> Mike -
>>
>> My XYL got me the Anniversary bug for Christmas '07 and I am unable
>to
>> find any blemishes at all. I think you will be well pleased. It's
>> gorgeous.
>>
>> 73
>>
>> Dick KB3OMJ
>>
>> >
>> >
>> >Mike:
>> >
>> >Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
>> >after it arrives.
>> >
>> >Jack - N0NV
>> >
>> >
>> >
>> >
>> >--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@> wrote:
>> >>
>> >> Marcelo, George, & all,

>> >>
>> >> Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a
>review.
>> >> It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new
>buyers'
>> >> impressions.
>> >>
>> >> I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of
>> >about 3
>> >> to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold
>at 25%
>> >> off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I
>called
>> >> and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at
>Vibroplex
>> >> says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I
>almost
>> >> said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her
>words, "But the
>> >> boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten
>round."
>> >> So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to
>verify
>> >this
>> >> but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if
>> >anyone is
>> >> interested.
>> >>
>> >> Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think
>with
>> >> the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At
>least
>> >> with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes
>pretty
>> >> slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)
>> >>
>> >> 73,
>> >> Mike ab3ap
>> >>
>> >> George Osier wrote:
>> >> > FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a
>bit
>> >but my
>> >> > favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used
>paddles it
>> >> > shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
>> >> >
>> >> > Good luck and have fun !!!!
>> >> >
>> >> > George , N2JNZ

>> >> > SKCC 2836T
>> >> > Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
>> >> > ----- Original Message -----
>> >> > From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@>
>> >> >> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to
>slow it
>> >> >> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>> >> >>
>> >> >> 73
>> >> >> Marcelo
>> >>
>> >
>>
>

# 941. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 17:46:41 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 929  Message: 941

The "Standard" version of the Anniversary Original Semi-automatic Vibroplex as well as the Millenium 2000 Blue Racer are both Deluxe (jeweled movement) bugs dressed in plain clothes.

All other "Standard" versions of Vibroplex have the standard, non-jeweled movement with the narrowed tapered pointed end of the top and bottom spindle of the lever sitting in empty cups at the end of the trunion (top and bottom) screws. The jeweled movement has the rounded end (instead of a point these look like an elbow) of the spindle fitting in the top and bottom jeweled cups,

The 100th Anniversary Original was supplied with Black finger pieces - which was what was used 100 years ago! It is the ONLY deluxe bug ever made with black finger pieces and a painted base. While the Millenium 2000 Blue Racer had red finger pieces, but it had a blue epoxy painted base - making it the first deluxe Vibroplex to have a painted base since the World War II bugs produced 1942-45 during the chrome rationing. The Millenium 2000 Blue Racer is really a new model of the Original bug - just put on a narrow base. The miniature hardware (yoke, vibrator, etc.) of the Blue Racer are NOT used, but modern Original parts are. So it is a Original on a narrow base, with jeweled movement and a blue painted base. The "Deluxe" version of this key only adds a chrome base as the key already has jeweled movement.

73

David N1EA
=30=
On 5/2/08, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> Dick,
> That 100th Anniversary is real "eye candy", eh? I "acquired" a very
> lightly used one a short time ago. Mine has the jewelled mainframe
> and red fingerpieces. Really adds sparkle to the operating desk.
> 73, Milt
>
> k4oso
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, hermit <hermit@...> wrote:
> >
> >
> > Mike -
> >
> > My XYL got me the Anniversary bug for Christmas '07 and I am unable
> to

> > find any blemishes at all. I think you will be well pleased. It's
> > gorgeous.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > Dick KB3OMJ
> >
> > >
> > >
> > >Mike:
> > >
> > >Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
> > >after it arrives.
> > >
> > >Jack - N0NV
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@> wrote:
> > >>
> > >> Marcelo, George, & all,
> > >>
> > >> Enjoy the new bug, Marcelo! I hope you'll have time to post a
> review.
> > >> It's always helpful for new bug users like me to hear other new
> buyers'
> > >> impressions.
> > >>
> > >> I'm awaiting my 100th Anniv Orig bug here. There's a backlog of
> > >about 3
> > >> to 4 weeks. Vibroplex web page says the 100th Anniv bug is sold
> at 25%
> > >> off because they can't guarantee the quality of the base. So I
> called
> > >> and asked what kind of blemishes I might expect. Betsy at
> Vibroplex
> > >> says that the maker of the bases has worked out the problems (I
> almost
> > >> said 'bugs') and that now the bases are fine. In her
> words, "But the
> > >> boss says to keep selling at the sale price and word has gotten
> round."
> > >> So $157 might just be a steal. I haven't received mine to
> verify
> > >this
> > >> but will be happy to post a follow up after the bug arrives if
> > >anyone is
> > >> interested.
> > >>

> > >> Also, Marcelo, you might not even need to slow it down. I think
> with
> > >> the standard weight you can go down to about 20 or so wpm. At
> least
> > >> with my old Lionel J-36 with the weight out to the end, it goes
> pretty
> > >> slow. But the ca. WW-II bearings might also be worn! :-)
> > >>
> > >> 73,
> > >> Mike ab3ap
> > >>
> > >> George Osier wrote:
> > >> > FB Marcelo !!! I have the Vari-Speed and have used it quite a
> bit
> > >but my
> > >> > favorite still is the Extendadot !! If you have never used
> paddles it
> > >> > shouldnt take long to get the knack of the bug !!
> > >> >
> > >> > Good luck and have fun !!!!
> > >> >
> > >> > George , N2JNZ
> > >> > SKCC 2836T
> > >> > Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original here
> > >> > ----- Original Message -----
> > >> > From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@>
> > >> >> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to
> slow it
> > >> >> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
> > >> >>
> > >> >> 73
> > >> >> Marcelo
> > >>
> > >
> >
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 942. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 19:46:34 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 929  Message: 942

David,
I've got to differ with you on this. The Blue Racer 2000 does indeed have the jewelled movement.....and it says so in the ad. It also shows the regular jewelled movement with the red decorative jewel on top. The 100th, on the other hand, is the standard mainframe, with NO mention of jewelled movement. I traded with a buddy for an 100th Anniversary model. He bought it and added the jewelled mainframe, and paid extra for it. I've got the key, the box and the invoice, all of which corroborate this.
Now.....I'm not saying the standard "look" could not be hiding an underlying jewelled movement, but I'm from Missouri on this one.
73,
Milt k4oso
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> The "Standard" version of the Anniversary Original Semi-automatic
> Vibroplex as well as the Millenium 2000 Blue Racer are both Deluxe
> (jeweled movement) bugs dressed in plain clothes.
>> >
>

# 943. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 20:36:01 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 929  Message: 943

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, hermit <hermit@...> wrote:
>
>
> Hi Milt -
>
> Mine is the jeweled version as well. I opted for the black finger
> pieces.
>
> I have been looking hard at the VizKey for quite awhile now. Think
> maybe I'm gonna have me one of those soon. Hi.
>
> 73
>
> >Dick,

You won't regret geting a VizBug. I have one and it is the only bug
that I have ever been friendly with. Quiet and light - just a
pleasure to use.

Bill W2BLC

# 944. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-02 20:56:36 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 929  Message: 944

I am half wrong Milt. The Blue Racer 2000 is a deluxe key dressed up in plain clothes. The ONLY difference between the Blue Racer 2000 "Standard" and the Blue Racer 2000 "Deluxe" is the chrome base rather than the blue epoxy painted base. Which is what I said.

However, you're right on the 100th Anniversary Original - it is indeed a standard movement as it has a screw at the top. The WW2 Deluxe keys had a screw on the top and also a jeweled movement.

Before we put this to bed, can someone loosen the screw at the top and look at the top of the spindle? Is it rounded (jeweled movement) or sharpened to a rounded small point (standard).

I no longer have a 100th Anniversary Bug here, but I have the Blue Racer 2000 - but we both agree on that.

73

David N1EA
=30=

On Sat, May 3, 2008 at 3:46 AM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> David,
> I've got to differ with you on this. The Blue Racer 2000 does indeed
> have the jewelled movement.....and it says so in the ad. It also
> shows the regular jewelled movement with the red decorative jewel on
> top. The 100th, on the other hand, is the standard mainframe, with
> NO mention of jewelled movement. I traded with a buddy for an 100th
> Anniversary model. He bought it and added the jewelled mainframe,
> and paid extra for it. I've got the key, the box and the invoice,
> all of which corroborate this.
> Now.....I'm not saying the standard "look" could not be hiding an
> underlying jewelled movement, but I'm from Missouri on this one.
> 73,
> Milt k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
> >
> > The "Standard" version of the Anniversary Original Semi-automatic
> > Vibroplex as well as the Millenium 2000 Blue Racer are both Deluxe
> > (jeweled movement) bugs dressed in plain clothes.
> >> >
> >

# 945. FS: Portable Antennas and Bugs.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-05 03:19:06 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 945  Message: 945

For the next few days. Please email me directly if interested.

< http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq/ItemsForSale.html >

Ventenna portable 40-10 used once and put away.

Pac 10 still in box.

Bugs are in great shape.

tnx.

Fernando N2FQ
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq>

# 946. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-07 02:20:28 UTC
From: n2yhq
Topic: 929  Message: 946

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...> wrote:
>
> Gang:
> Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow
it
> down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
>
> 73
> Marcelo
>
Update 05/06/08

Yesterday I received the bug and spent a significant amount of time just looking at it!. Seriously, this device is a true engineering masterpiece. How did I spent 47 yrs of my life without having one?. I uploaded its picture under "n2yhq". Now I will have to practice, practice and practice.

73 Marcelo

# 947. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-07 02:49:05 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 929  Message: 947

Hello Marcelo,

I agree with you - the Vari-Speed was a brilliant invention. It was the idea of the same fellow who invented the FYO paddles which were the predessesor of the Bencher paddles. The invention was Joseph A. Hills, W8FYO. The Vari-speed came out in 1954, and the FYO paddles came out in 1962, just a few years after Vibroplex launched its paddles, the Vibrokeyer.

Both were brilliant designs. But W8FYO only patented the key design.

FYO paddle http://www.google.com/patents?id=4BtpAAAAEBAJ&dq=hills+telegraph

73

David N1EA

On Wed, May 7, 2008 at 2:20 AM, n2yhq <n2yhq@...> wrote:
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...> wrote:
> >
> > Gang:
> > Just ordered a new original deluxe bug with the vari speed to slow
> it
> > down HIHI. Can't wait to get it.
> >
> > 73
> > Marcelo
> >
> Update 05/06/08
>
> Yesterday I received the bug and spent a significant amount of time
> just looking at it!. Seriously, this device is a true engineering
> masterpiece. How did I spent 47 yrs of my life without having one?. I
> uploaded its picture under "n2yhq". Now I will have to practice,
> practice and practice.
>
> 73 Marcelo
>
>
> ------------------------------------

# 948. A new attempt at bug design

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-13 15:59:48 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 948  Message: 948

Hi, All -

Finally I have come up with a design for a single-pendulum fully-automatic bug that I am willing to expose to the public. It will never take the bug world by storm, but it does have some features that you might find interesting. I will be taking it to Dayton for comments.
You can see it at http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/thedoublemaxbug2008

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 949. Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-13 18:36:15 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 948  Message: 949

An interesting project! It is amazing.

Brilliant job!

73

David Ring, N1EA

On Tue, May 13, 2008 at 11:59 AM, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Finally I have come up with a design for a single-pendulum
> fully-automatic bug that I am willing to expose to the public. It will
> never take the bug world by storm, but it does have some features that you
> might find interesting. I will be taking it to Dayton for comments.
> You can see it at http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/thedoublemaxbug2008
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>

# 950. Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-13 20:20:03 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 948  Message: 950

Rich,
Incredible!. Your workmanship is superb.
I will be at Dayton to see it. What booth will you be in?

73

Don, NN8B

On Tue, May 13, 2008 at 11:59 AM, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Finally I have come up with a design for a single-pendulum
> fully-automatic bug that I am willing to expose to the public. It will
> never take the bug world by storm, but it does have some features that you
> might find interesting. I will be taking it to Dayton for comments.
> You can see it at http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/thedoublemaxbug2008
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 951. Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-14 05:40:30 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 948  Message: 951

Hi, Don -

Thanks for the kind words. I won't have a booth at the Hara Arena, but the bug will make the rounds during the day - I certainly plan to drop in on Tom Perera. In the evenings I will be at the QRP ARCI events at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn (on the other side of town). Hope to run into you sometime during the hamfest.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: Donald Kemp
Sent: May 13, 2008 4:20 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Rich,
Incredible!. Your workmanship is superb.
I will be at Dayton to see it. What booth will you be in?

73

Don, NN8B

On Tue, May 13, 2008 at 11:59 AM, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@earthlink.net> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Finally I have come up with a design for a single-pendulum
> fully-automatic bug that I am willing to expose to the public. It will
> never take the bug world by storm, but it does have some features that you
> might find interesting. I will be taking it to Dayton for comments.
> You can see it at http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/thedoublemaxbug2008
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 952. Re: A new attempt at bug design

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-14 20:51:23 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 948  Message: 952

F.Y.I. -

The Tom Perera booth (W1TP) occupies flea market spaces 2555-2551, a must-see in itself. The flea market map is here: http://www.hamvention.org/hv2008/flea/Forms/fleamarketmap.pdf

Hope to see some of you there...

Jack - N0NV

Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Hi, Don -

Thanks for the kind words. I won't have a booth at the Hara Arena, but the bug will make the rounds during the day - I certainly plan to drop in on Tom Perera. In the evenings I will be at the QRP ARCI events at the Holiday Inn in Fairborn (on the other side of town). Hope to run into you sometime during the hamfest.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: Donald Kemp
Sent: May 13, 2008 4:20 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] A new attempt at bug design

Rich,
Incredible!. Your workmanship is superb.
I will be at Dayton to see it. What booth will you be in?

73

Don, NN8B

On Tue, May 13, 2008 at 11:59 AM, Richard Meiss
<wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Finally I have come up with a design for a single-pendulum
> fully-automatic bug that I am willing to expose to the public.
It will
> never take the bug world by storm, but it does have some

features that you
> might find interesting. I will be taking it to Dayton for comments.
> You can see it at http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/thedoublemaxbug2008
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 953. N2YHQ feedback on Vibroplex Original deluxe bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-17 11:14:13 UTC
From: n2yhq
Topic: 953  Message: 953

I received my Vibroplex Original deluxe bug (#111820) and as an engineer I must admit that I am very critical on product design, performance and aesthetic features. However, I am impressed by the quality of workmanship and attention to detail of this product. I also want to express my appreciation to Vibroplex staff that provided an outstanding customer support during the pre and post sales process and to the entire company for producing this beautiful engineering marvel that not only performs flawlessly but it also adds to the joy of knowing that I am operating a truly piece of American Telegraph's history.

73, N2YHQ
SKCC 2373C, FISTS 12774, NAQCC 1669, QRP ARCI 12904,FpQrp 1645
www.qrz.com/n2yhq

# 954. Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-17 13:43:55 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 954  Message: 954

Hello all.
I am looking to restore a J36 Bug, and wonder If anyone has bits they would part with? Please email me personally at: g0rdo(at sign) morsemad.com

I need the main arm with spring, plus Dot contact with spring, screw and nut. Also damper mechanism.
73 John / G0RDO / morsemad.com

# 956. Re: N2YHQ feedback on Vibroplex Original deluxe bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-17 14:04:47 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 953  Message: 956

Marcelo,
Congratulations on your new beauty. It sure looks impressive on your operating desk, with the varispeed. A great combo, and a gift that will keep giving for many, many years. Hope to catch you on the air soon.
73, Milt
K4OSO, A1 OP
SKCC 180T
FISTS 11383
NNN0FOS

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...> wrote:
>
> I received my Vibroplex Original deluxe bug (#111820) and as an
> engineer I must admit that I am very critical on product design,
> performance and aesthetic features. However, I am impressed by the
> quality of workmanship and attention to detail of this product. I
> also want to express my appreciation to Vibroplex staff that provided
> an outstanding customer support during the pre and post sales process
> and to the entire company for producing this beautiful engineering
> marvel that not only performs flawlessly but it also adds to the joy
> of knowing that I am operating a truly piece of American Telegraph's
> history.
>
> 73, N2YHQ
> SKCC 2373C, FISTS 12774, NAQCC 1669, QRP ARCI 12904,FpQrp 1645
> www.qrz.com/n2yhq
>

# 957. Re: [cw_bugs] N2YHQ feedback on Vibroplex Original deluxe bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-17 15:49:47 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 953  Message: 957

FB Marcelo !!!

I have the Original 100th and was amazed at the beutiful chrome and powdercoat base with nice hand painted decoration !!! They were great during the ordering and my base had NO defect issues !! For $157 it was a STEAL !!!!!

73

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

----- Original Message -----
From: "n2yhq" <n2yhq@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2008 7:14 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] N2YHQ feedback on Vibroplex Original deluxe bug

>I received my Vibroplex Original deluxe bug (#111820) and as an
> engineer I must admit that I am very critical on product design,
> performance and aesthetic features. However, I am impressed by the
> quality of workmanship and attention to detail of this product. I
> also want to express my appreciation to Vibroplex staff that provided
> an outstanding customer support during the pre and post sales process
> and to the entire company for producing this beautiful engineering
> marvel that not only performs flawlessly but it also adds to the joy
> of knowing that I am operating a truly piece of American Telegraph's
> history.
>
> 73, N2YHQ
> SKCC 2373C, FISTS 12774, NAQCC 1669, QRP ARCI 12904,FpQrp 1645
> www.qrz.com/n2yhq
>
>
>
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 958. Re: [cw_bugs] N2YHQ feedback on Vibroplex Original deluxe bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-17 17:00:32 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 953  Message: 958

n2yhq wrote:
> I received my Vibroplex Original deluxe bug (#111820) and as an
> engineer I must admit that I am very critical on product design,
> performance and aesthetic features. However, I am impressed by the
> quality of workmanship and attention to detail of this product.

Congrats, Marcelo, on your new bug! Your description makes me look forward even more to my order (100th Anniversary Original). Over six weeks and counting - can't be long now.

73 & hope to qso using our new bugs soon,
Mike ab3ap

# 959. RFTB Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-18 03:29:12 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 959  Message: 959

This Sunday night is the night for May's Run For The Bacon.

If you're returning from Dayton; I hope you'll still have enough energy to join us!

As always, the details for this funfilled 2 hour QRP Sprint can be found at:

http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 960. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-19 22:54:39 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 960

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!
This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for May, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200805.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies, this month's Special Award, which will be awarded to the one working the most different call areas in the USA.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 961. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-22 12:20:25 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 954  Message: 961

Don't worry about it, John. Hey some of us (me!) keep on wanting to call you "GORDO", because I just can't remember you call sign is G Zero RaDiO.

73

DR

On Sat, May 17, 2008 at 9:46 AM, John / G0RDO <g0rdo@...> wrote:
> Sorry! My email should read g0rdo(at)morsemad.com

# 962. Re: Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-05-22 16:34:27 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 954  Message: 962

My callsign gets a lot of laughs when I'm on HF CW !
Especially the Spanish speaking Stations :0)

73 G0RDO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Don't worry about it, John. Hey some of us (me!) keep on wanting to
> call you "GORDO", because I just can't remember you call sign is G
> Zero RaDiO.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> On Sat, May 17, 2008 at 9:46 AM, John / G0RDO <g0rdo@...> wrote:
> > Sorry! My email should read g0rdo(at)morsemad.com
>

# 963. the BEST slow bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-04 13:54:58 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 963  Message: 963

Here is your chance:

http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230258949953&ssPageName=ADME:B:SS:US:1123

Many folks on this list have expressed desire for a slow bug. Above is an auction for the IMHO the very best slow speed bug.

This bug is a rare collectible. It was made from the 1920's to the 50's primarily for the Australian post office. Many were made so it shouldn't be rare. In the seventies when the post office did away with CW messages, they threw most of them out.

It usually sells between three hundred and five hundred dollars. this one is a newer one from about 1950, so may sell on the lower side. As a collectible this bug will probably gain, not lose, value, whereas if you buy a new bug for two-hundred, you likely won't be able to resell it for more than about 75. As such, this is a better purchase. You can probably resell it for what you bought it for, if not more.

this key uses a release mechanism that was invented in the early 1900's by Coffe with his Mecograph bugs. It has a different feel from the Vibroplexes. It will go from about 12 wpm to about 32 wpm, a very nice range for a bug.

I use mine on the air frequently, and have never worked another. Pretty much only a few collectors have them, and they mostly don't put them on the air. so if you buy it, let's set up a sked, Simplex-Auto to Simplex-Auto!

73,

FD - kt5x

www.kt5x.com

# 964. Re: the BEST slow bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-04 21:01:49 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 963  Message: 964

Sure wish it was a Codetrol - like the one pictured on your site.

I have taken the liberty of cross posting your post to the
RadioTelegraphy Forum at:
http://forum.radiotelegraphy.net/phpBB3/viewforum.php?f=3

That is indeed a rare key.

# 965. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-06 21:24:25 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 929  Message: 965

Jack and everyone,

nzeronv wrote:
> Mike:
>
> Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
> after it arrives.
>
> Jack - N0NV

It arrived at long last! Ordered April 3rd and showed up by the door just a few minutes ago - about 9 weeks later. Vibroplex had a back order on 100th Anniv bases and then had to wait on an order of parts for the lever apparently. But it made.

By the way, I can safely say that though the 100th Anniv Original is advertised as "seconds only" with warnings that quality might not be 100%, I see absolutely no sign of problems. Others have said the same, so if you have $160 to spare it's really a very good deal.

The bug has much snappier action than my Lionel J-36 and is also a little noisier. But I can make much more crisp characters than with the J-36. Dinner soon and then I'll have to make my 1st qso on the new bug!

73,
Mike ab3ap

# 966. Re: VIBROPLEX Original Deluxe

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-06 22:40:53 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 929  Message: 966

FB Mike:

That's a major case of delayed gratification. But like you, I saw no problems with the quality of the base.

Have fun Mike,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Mike Markowski <mm@...> wrote:
>
> Jack and everyone,
>
> nzeronv wrote:
> > Mike:
> >
> > Let us know what you think of your new 100th Anniversary Original
> > after it arrives.
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
>
> It arrived at long last! Ordered April 3rd and showed up by the door
> just a few minutes ago - about 9 weeks later. Vibroplex had a back
> order on 100th Anniv bases and then had to wait on an order of parts
for
> the lever apparently. But it made.
>
> By the way, I can safely say that though the 100th Anniv Original is
> advertised as "seconds only" with warnings that quality might not be
> 100%, I see absolutely no sign of problems. Others have said the same,
> so if you have $160 to spare it's really a very good deal.
>
> The bug has much snappier action than my Lionel J-36 and is also a
> little noisier. But I can make much more crisp characters than with
the
> J-36. Dinner soon and then I'll have to make my 1st qso on the new bug!
>
> 73,
> Mike ab3ap
>

# 967. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-07 19:23:20 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 967

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for June, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200806.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

Since this is Field Day month, our special award goes to the one making the highest score while operating out of doors away from their regular QTH.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 968. NAQCC Special mW Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-06-15 15:42:41 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 968  Message: 968

NAQCC Special mW Sprint Tuesday night!
This coming Tuesday evening will be the Special NAQCC mW Sprint.

You must use 1 watt or less output power. Other stations can use any power.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200806_special.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also certificates for the winners.

This is a special event, for the month of June, that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate; but you must use QRP/p power levels to compete for awards.

This is a good time for you to earn your NAQCC 1000 Miles Per Watt Award. Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 969. Re: Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-09 15:18:45 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 954  Message: 969

Many thanks to all who helped me with parts.
To complete the bug I am just needing the Main Key Lever, with intact mainspring (mine is broken) and complete with the Pendulum ( the strip with numbers 1 to 0 on it) ( missing on mine!).
Please let me know if you have anything and price etc. to me direct at: g0rdo(the at sign)morsemad.com

Many thanks, John / G0RDO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "John / G0RDO" <g0rdo@...> wrote:
>
> Hello all.
> I am looking to restore a J36 Bug, and wonder If anyone has bits they
> would part with? Please email me personally at: g0rdo(at sign)
> morsemad.com
>
> I need the main arm with spring, plus Dot contact with spring, screw
> and nut. Also damper mechanism.
> 73 John / G0RDO / morsemad.com
>

# 970. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-09 17:58:37 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 954  Message: 970

John,

You're better off replacing the mainspring with .010 steel stock - or if you can stainless steel stock. If the key is non-Vibroplex (Bunnell or Lionel) sometimes the pendulum didn't have markings on the side. This is the most difficult part to get of the Lightning Bug/Champion/Zephyr type of keys. If you do manage to find one, bravo! But I would fix the one you have - one reason is that if you get a "spare" - it might have been discarded because it was a poor sending main spring. You're better off fixing the mainspring.

73

David N1EA

# 971. Re: Wanted! Parts For A J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-09 21:43:59 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 954  Message: 971

OK David, many thanks for the advice.
Thing is - the pendulum arm is missing (the part with 1 to 0 numbers on it) so I cannot fit a replacement spring !

I am hoping someone has a complete main arm, or perhaps a junk key with a complete main arm.

John / G0RDO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> John,
>
> You're better off replacing the mainspring with .010 steel stock - or
> if you can stainless steel stock. If the key is non-Vibroplex
> (Bunnell or Lionel) sometimes the pendulum didn't have markings on the
> side. This is the most difficult part to get of the Lightning
> Bug/Champion/Zephyr type of keys. If you do manage to find one,
> bravo! But I would fix the one you have - one reason is that if you
> get a "spare" - it might have been discarded because it was a poor
> sending main spring. You're better off fixing the mainspring.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

# 973. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-13 21:09:26 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 973

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!
This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for July, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200807.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize (a classic book in Morse on CD donated by Chuck Adams K7QO).

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The member in each division who makes the highest score among those who have never before sent in a report for one of our sprints and makes 5 or more QSO's in this sprint.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 974. Sunday Night - Run For the Bacon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-20 03:31:08 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 974  Message: 974

This Sunday night s the July Run For the Bacon, which is a friendly two hour QRP Sprint sponsored by the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International.

It's looking like Sunday is going to be a hot one across a lot of the country. Maybe the hot weather will induce the ionosphere to be hot and give us great conditions for the Sprint! Well, we can hope, anyway!

For the details and the Autolog, please visit :

http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrp/fpqrprun.php

See you there! And by the way, think of this as a "warm up" for the Flight of the Bumblebees to be held next Sunday!

Oink, oink es 73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 975. Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 18:09:43 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 975  Message: 975

After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again caught my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.

A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just called Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on the contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.

Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on my own?

73,

Steve N6VL

# 976. CQ's Dave Ingram and CW promo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 18:07:34 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 976  Message: 976

I just recieved this a few minutes ago ..... Anyone have an interest in what seems like a good promo for CW ????

Hello George!

Vibroplex Mitch and I were discussing my world traveling telegraphic display yesterday (you probably saw it in July CQ or August QST) and your name came up as the perfect person to ask for help in getting it accepted at ham conventions. The reason is because there are SKCC members in all the big hamfest areas like Orlando, Dallas, Seaside, Oregon; Seattle, WA, Dayton, etc.Mitch suggested you might know the right people to put us in touch with to suggest their related hamfest show the Telegraphic Display...which incidentally features SKCC in high style. Might you be willing to lend a hand in this direction?

Thanks & 73,

Dave, K4TWJ

# 977. Re: [cw_bugs] CQ's Dave Ingram and CW promo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 18:38:20 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 976  Message: 977

Hello George,

Thanks for sharing the message from Dave K4TWJ. It sounds like a grand plan.

K4TWJ could always attend the 2008 ARRL New England Convention at the
Holiday Inn Boxboro Woods in Boxborough, MA Friday August 22 through
Sunday August 24 and have a key shoot-out with Tom Perera, W1TP, who
is also bringing his collection and giving a talk.

73

David Ring, N1EA

On Tue, Jul 22, 2008 at 2:07 PM, George Osier <gosier@...> wrote:
>
> I just recieved this a few minutes ago ..... Anyone have an
> interest in what seems like a good promo for CW ????
>
>
> Hello George!
>
> Vibroplex Mitch and I were discussing my world traveling telegraphic display
> yesterday (you probably saw it in July CQ or August QST) and your name came
> up as the perfect person to ask for help in getting it accepted at ham
> conventions. The reason is because there are SKCC members in all the big
> hamfest areas like Orlando, Dallas, Seaside, Oregon; Seattle, WA, Dayton,
> etc.Mitch suggested you might know the right people to put us in touch with
> to suggest their related hamfest show the Telegraphic Display...which
> incidentally features SKCC in high style. Might you be willing to lend a
> hand in this direction?
>
> Thanks & 73,
>
> Dave, K4TWJ
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------

# 978. Re: [cw_bugs] Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 18:49:11 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 975  Message: 978

Buy a contact cleaner from Vibroplex or make one yourself out of a sheet of 800 grit (fine) emory cloth doubled back on itself and glued and cut into strips - about a dozen from a 75 cent sheet of emory paper.

Refinish the contacts yourself.

73
DR

On Tue, Jul 22, 2008 at 2:09 PM, n6vl <n6vl@...> wrote:
> After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again caught
> my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.
>
> A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just called
> Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on the
> contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.
>
> Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on my own?
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 979. Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 19:19:13 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 975  Message: 979

Steve,
Is that price for ALL of them or EACH of them? If its for each, that's
approaching the price of a new bug!
73 es gud luk
Milt k4oso
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again caught
> my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.
>
> A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just called
> Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on the
> contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.
>
> Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on my
own?
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 980. Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 19:32:01 UTC
From: n6vl
Topic: 975  Message: 980

Milt,

$40.50 is the total price wo/ shipping. It includes replacing each post with a new contact, the contact spring, and a new sliding dash contact. I just called Vibroplex again to be sure.

The real question for me is whether my post contacts really need replacing or if the fine grit cloth will work as well. I have used the grit in the past. I probably depends on the shape of the contact surface. All of my scratchy sounds are ONLY dot related.

I have used Flitz metal polish before, but have reservations about it. Flitz is supposed to prevent further oxidation. Wouldn't that leave a film on it?

73,

Steve N6VL

# 981. Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 19:36:08 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 975  Message: 981

Steve,
I just looked at the Vibroplex page and the 40.50 price is for all the contacts. If all of yours are a wreck (??) and you need them replaced, that price doesn't seem too bad. However, David's suggestion is a good one. Those contacts are pretty thick and should last quite a number of years, even with heavy use. Getting the old ones smooth in the event a previous owner took a file to them (or other drastic measures). Good luck.
Milt
k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again caught
> my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.
>
> A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just called
> Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on the
> contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.
>
> Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on my
own?
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 982. Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 19:43:12 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 975  Message: 982

Steve,
I have not had experience with Flitz. I do use the contact cleaning
strips (from Ebay) and they do a great job. I also installed a
capacitor across my key contact posts and that has made a nice
difference in the scratchy sound. I used a .01 microfarad cap from
Radio Shack, and installed an "O" clip on the ends to keep it in
place without having to worry about it dropping off during hook-ups.
Milt
k4oso--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n6vl" <n6vl@...> wrote:
>
> Milt,
>
> $40.50 is the total price wo/ shipping. It includes replacing each
post
> with a new contact, the contact spring, and a new sliding dash
contact.
> I just called Vibroplex again to be sure.
>
> The real question for me is whether my post contacts really need
> replacing or if the fine grit cloth will work as well. I have used
the
> grit in the past. I probably depends on the shape of the contact
> surface. All of my scratchy sounds are ONLY dot related.
>
> I have used Flitz metal polish before, but have reservations about
it.
> Flitz is supposed to prevent further oxidation. Wouldn't that leave
a
> film on it?
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 983. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-22 19:50:01 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 975  Message: 983

If the contacts are ruined, they can almost always be restored. What you need for that is a flat surface to put the fine crocus cloth on.

(In my last email, I called what you need "emory cloth" by error, the abrasive is the same but when it is put on paper, it is caled emory paper and when it is on cloth it is called crocus cloth).

Disassemble the bug, and CAREFULLY rub the contact (face down) in a figure-8 pattern being careful to press down on the center as to not round the contact (not really a problem as long as it is uniform). Another method is to cut a band of crocus cloth and wrap around your finger like a bandage and "massage" the silver (towards the finger) in a figure eight pattern.

If it is extremely bad (which it isn't) use course crocus cloth for a few wipes, then medium for much more and then fine. The idea is to level the surface, then with the fine cloth to polish it.

Clean with denatured (or rubbing) 90% alcohol. and let dry, then work on the other three contacts.

Then when all is dry, polish with Flitz. It has an ingredient which bonds to the silver to prevent tarnish and is excellent for contacts. Clean by rubbing off with cotton pads or cotton puff. Do not use paper towel - or use cotton tipped swabs with caution - avoid scarring by directly hitting the wooden stick of the swab.

Paper towel should not be used on any mirror surface, just glass cleaning microfiber, Turkish towels, cotton balls or fleece.

73

DR

On Tue, Jul 22, 2008 at 3:36 PM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> Steve,
Getting the old ones smooth in the event a
> previous owner took a file to them (or other drastic measures). Good
> luck.
> Milt
> k4oso

# 984. bug contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-23 17:14:58 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 984  Message: 984

Contacts can be hopelessly pitted from use with high current transmitters.

The silver contact has a pin on the end and is pressed into a hole in the screw. They easily pull out, and new ones pressed in. You can easily do it yourself.

I put the screw and old pitted contact to my buffing wheel. I can easily buff out the pits, and leave a highly polished convex contact. Two such polished and convex contacts will slide over one another with essentially no bounce.

Once this polished convex surface is achieved, and that is not they way replacement contacts come from Vibroplex, from them they are flat and not a polished surface, merely a smooth one, thereafter one need only an occassional drop of liquid silver polish to reverse oxidation.

Good ideas and second thoughts... (a complete non-sequiter)

At some point it seemed like a good idea to "keep on running." So i have done that for fifty years now. At age 63 I appreciate being able to run more than ever.

At some point it seemed like a good idea to keep signing up to do the Pikes Peak Marathon as a personal challenge to keeping on running.

At some point this morning, it seemed like a good idea to one minute high speed uphill surges as part of the preparation.

Fast forward a few hours... I'm in pain, Mike!

73, Fred - kt5x

# 985. Re: [cw_bugs] bug contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-23 18:39:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 984  Message: 985
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 986. Re: [cw_bugs] Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-24 00:14:07 UTC
From: Tim Soxman
Topic: 975  Message: 986

steve,
If you had a drill press you could drill out the conntacts and press fit the new ones I provide tsp with little ball
peen hammer snd it's locked in place.Pr you an polish yhr contacts with reley burnishr or FlitZ/
Tim W3ZVT
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2008 2:09 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Replace Vibroplex contacts?

After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again caught
my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.

A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just called
Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on the
contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.

Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on my own?

73,

Steve N6VL

# 987. Re: Replace Vibroplex contacts?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-24 00:21:16 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 975  Message: 987

Tim,
Could you restate your suggestion. I'm missing something. Thanks,
Milt k4oso
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tim Soxman" <tims@...> wrote:
>
> steve,
> If you had a drill press you could drill out the conntacts and
press fit the new ones I provide tsp with little ball
> peen hammer snd it's locked in place.Pr you an polish yhr contacts
with reley burnishr or FlitZ/
> Tim W3ZVT
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2008 2:09 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Replace Vibroplex contacts?
>
>
> After a few months of all sideswiper sending, my bug has again
caught
> my attention. It is a 1953 Presentation, my favorite bug so far.
>
> A friend told me Vibroplex will replace the contacts. I just
called
> Vibroplex and they said it is $40.50 to replace each contact on
the
> contact post, the contact spring, and the sliding dash contact.
>
> Is that service worth the money? Or can I do a similar repair on
my own?
>
> 73,
>
> Steve N6VL
>

# 988. bug contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-24 16:19:51 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 984  Message: 988

Well, DR, the buffing wheel I use if for jewelry. It is about six inches in diameter. i simply hold the screw facinto the wheel, it is a fabric that one puts a buffing compound on, and it makes a convex surface without further ado.

Tim, good to see you posting, and hope you are feeling OK. While you ar a master machenst and all you say is right on, I have never had any trouble pulling the old silver contact out of the screw with a pair of pliers. i have always been able to put the new one in by aligning the new contact on the screw vertically, and pushing down against a (work) table. The silver pin is pretty soft.

Three weeks to the Pikes Peak Marathon. yesterday it seemed like it would be a good idea to do one minute duration steep uphill sprints. What seemed a good idea yesterday has left me with second thoughts today! Hah-hah !!!

73 - fred - kt5x

# 989. Re: [cw_bugs] bug contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-25 19:28:20 UTC
From: elawson@inficad.com
Topic: 984  Message: 989

Quoting cloud runner <KT5X@...>:

> Good ideas and second thoughts... (a complete non-sequiter)
>
> At some point it seemed like a good idea to "keep on running." So i
> have done that for fifty years now. At age 63 I appreciate being
> able to run more than ever.
>
> At some point it seemed like a good idea to keep signing up to do
> the Pikes Peak Marathon as a personal challenge to keeping on running.
>
> At some point this morning, it seemed like a good idea to one minute
> high speed uphill surges as part of the preparation.
>
> Fast forward a few hours... I'm in pain, Mike!

I use the rim to rim to rim Grand Canyon dayhike like you use the
marathons.... I'm getting ready to head up Squaw Peak. It's a bit
over a mile one way with a 1250 foot climb and under my hat is the
only shady part of the trail. It's going to be around 109F....at
least the crowds will be gone.... :-)

Eric

---
This message was sent using IMP, the Internet Messaging Program.

# 990. Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 13:42:17 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 990  Message: 990

I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?

I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any movement.

My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.

Am I missing something here?

# 991. Quiet bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 13:59:57 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 991  Message: 991

I have said for a long time that one of the reasons I like my VizBug is that it is nearly silent in operation. Just the slightest ticking. Certainly nothing like I have experienced with various Vibroplex bugs in the past.

Now I have found a Blue Racer (great purchase for $61). It too is quiet - after a couple of minor mods and careful adjustment.

For the mod, I placed two layers of heat shring to the far end of the rod (where it contacts the damper). I also dampen the contact between the adjuster stop screw and the bar with a small piece of heavy rubber type sealing tape. Then I adjusted the rod so that it does not strike the damper in a hard manner.

I am getting solid dits, don't have to treat the key like an enemy to make it work, and am enjoying it like I have no other Vibroplex. I also find there is no problem in slowing the key to 15 wpm - just use the appropriate weight.

# 992. Re: [cw_bugs] Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 14:17:32 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 990  Message: 992

Sounds like someone is slapping their bug with a vengence. I have a Vibroplex Anniversary bug and a VizBug and I get no movement at all. I remember some time ago watching a video of a lady using a bug and she had really long finger nails. She was slappin' that thing like it was her husband - funniest thing I ever saw. Sure wish I could remember what site I saw that on. Sure is worth a look-agn. Hi.

Speaking of bugs. I am looking forward to the arrival of my new GHD GH-GN207A only with a black base. If you would care to take a look, go here: http://www.mtechnologies.com/ghd/gn207.jpg

73

Dick KB3OMJ

>I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
>over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
>I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
>very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
>movement.
>
>My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
>paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
>Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>
>Am I missing something here?
>
>

# 993. Re: [cw_bugs] Quiet bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 14:24:36 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 991  Message: 993

Hello Bill -

If you have a digital camera maybe sometime you could take a picture
or two of your mod. I know I would be interested in seeing it.

73

Dick

>I have said for a long time that one of the reasons I like my VizBug is
>that it is nearly silent in operation. Just the slightest ticking.
>Certainly nothing like I have experienced with various Vibroplex bugs
>in the past.
>
>Now I have found a Blue Racer (great purchase for $61). It too is
>quiet - after a couple of minor mods and careful adjustment.
>
>For the mod, I placed two layers of heat shring to the far end of the
>rod (where it contacts the damper). I also dampen the contact between
>the adjuster stop screw and the bar with a small piece of heavy rubber
>type sealing tape. Then I adjusted the rod so that it does not strike
>the damper in a hard manner.
>
>I am getting solid dits, don't have to treat the key like an enemy to
>make it work, and am enjoying it like I have no other Vibroplex. I also
>find there is no problem in slowing the key to 15 wpm - just use the
>appropriate weight.

# 994. Re: Quiet bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 16:02:39 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 991  Message: 994

Things mechanical make noise. In a situation that demands quiet, a paddle and keyer would be the best way to go.

Some of my racers are quieter than others but, the sound of their operation goes with the territory, eh? Besides, I use headphones, so I'm not distracted by the sound of the damper, etc.

For those using a speaker for CW copy, I wouldn't think the bug mechanism adds significantly to that overall situation.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <w2blc@...> wrote:
>
> I have said for a long time that one of the reasons I like my VizBug is
> that it is nearly silent in operation. Just the slightest ticking.
> Certainly nothing like I have experienced with various Vibroplex bugs
> in the past.
>
> Now I have found a Blue Racer (great purchase for $61). It too is
> quiet - after a couple of minor mods and careful adjustment.
>
> For the mod, I placed two layers of heat shring to the far end of the
> rod (where it contacts the damper). I also dampen the contact between
> the adjuster stop screw and the bar with a small piece of heavy rubber
> type sealing tape. Then I adjusted the rod so that it does not strike
> the damper in a hard manner.
>
> I am getting solid dits, don't have to treat the key like an enemy to
> make it work, and am enjoying it like I have no other Vibroplex. I also
> find there is no problem in slowing the key to 15 wpm - just use the
> appropriate weight.
>

# 995. slapping bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 17:25:05 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 995  Message: 995

HI HI !!! (which, as you know, is actually, "HO HO" in American landline Morse.

Yes, there are reasons for setting the gaps wide and slapping the bug. In days gone by, if you set the bug closely and manipulated the lever gentley with your fingers, you would be ridiculed at best, fired at worst. Why?

First off, proper and dignified dits require that the vibrating spring be set in motion with some momentum which is achieved by accelerating the lever across a space, and hitting the stop post deflecting the spring.

This becomes more poignant with landline Morse and early radios in which the key was switching large currents and voltages. Little bitty vibrations barely making dits as you may get away with now with low current and low voltage solid state switching simply wouldn't do. You would wind up with one long fuzzy arc instead of distinct dits.

Proper bug Morse requires the motion be imparted from the wrist and elbow, not the fingers. Fingers squeeze an iambic paddle nicely, even dashes come from tendons, not muscles.

Have fun with morse,

Fred - kt5x

modest bug collection can be seen at www.kt5x.com

# 996. Re: [cw_bugs] Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 18:16:40 UTC
From: Fernando Quinones
Topic: 990  Message: 996

Hello.

Here is a Youtube video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mXrpkU7CCI>

Skip to the middle and see her in action.

enjoy.

On Jul 28, 2008, at 7:17 AM, hermit wrote:

>
> Sounds like someone is slapping their bug with a vengence. I have a
> Vibroplex Anniversary bug and a VizBug and I get no movement at all. I
> remember some time ago watching a video of a lady using a bug and she
> had really long finger nails. She was slappin' that thing like it was
> her husband - funniest thing I ever saw. Sure wish I could remember
> what site I saw that on. Sure is worth a look-agn. Hi.
>
> Speaking of bugs. I am looking forward to the arrival of my new GHD
> GH-GN207A only with a black base. If you would care to take a look,
> go here: http://www.mtechnologies.com/ghd/gn207.jpg
>
> 73
>
> Dick KB3OMJ
>
>> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
>> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>>
>> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to
>> set it
>> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
>> movement.
>>
>> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single
>> lever
>> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
>> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>>
>> Am I missing something here?
>>
>>
>
>

> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

Fernando N2FQ
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq>

# 997. Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 18:31:14 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 990  Message: 997

Must be the very secret flying red-nails style.

# 998. Re: [cw_bugs] Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 18:58:50 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 990  Message: 998

I think what people mean is that it feels "tippy" as if it were going
to fall over. What it actually does is slide around because the base
is narrower and weighs less.

73

DR

On Mon, Jul 28, 2008 at 8:42 AM, Bill <w2blc@...> wrote:
> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
> movement.
>
> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>
> Am I missing something here?
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 999. Re: [cw_bugs] slapping bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 21:18:30 UTC
From: hermit
Topic: 995  Message: 999

On Mon, 28 Jul 2008 11:25:05 -0600, you wrote:

>HI HI !!! (which, as you know, is actually, "HO HO" in American landline Morse.
>
>Yes, there are reasons for setting the gaps wide and slapping the bug. In days gone by, if you set the bug closely and manipulated the lever gentley with your fingers, you would be ridiculed at best, fired at worst. Why?
>
>First off, proper and dignified dits require that the vibrating spring be set in motion with some momentum which is achieved by accelerating the lever across a space, and hitting the stop post deflecting the spring.
>
>This becomes more poignant with landline Morse and early radios in which the key was switching large currents and voltages. Little bitty vibrations barely making dits as you may get away with now with low current and low voltage solid state switching simply wouldn't do. You would wind up with one long fuzzy arc instead of distinct dits.
>
>Proper bug Morse requires the motion be imparted from the wrist and elbow, not the fingers. Fingers squeeze an iambic paddle nicely, even dashes come from tendons, not muscles.
>
>Have fun with morse,
>
>Fred - kt5x
>
>modest bug collection can be seen at www.kt5x.com
>
>
>

# 1000. Bugs moving around

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-29 02:16:30 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 1000  Message: 1000

Hi Bill:

I think you hit the proper point when you say "set it very light." A properly adjusted Vibroplex should not be moving all over the table, and if it does, it usually indicates excessive tension on the dit retractive spring and/or the dash tension spring. Spring tension should be just enough to provide crisp, snappy performance. On most properly adjusted bugs, the spring tension nuts will be backed out most or the way.

There seems to be a host of ills associated with the adjustment and manipulation of speed keys out there, and the sound of some of them on-air reflects this. A carefully adjusted bug should be easy to operate and provide good readable code that is balanced and similar to the ratio provided by the newer electronic keyers. If one follows the instructions provided by Vibroplex or other documentation available on the Internet, it should eliminate any such problems.

Here is a link to a pdf on bug adjustment available on the QMN/NREN net web site, which you can share with interested individuals:

www.aa8vs.org/nren/docs/adjustbug.pdf

I am sure there are also a few links out there to the old QST article that Vibroplex used to distribute explaining proper bug adjustment.

As to you-tube videos...I'm afraid to look. Does the term "blind leading the blind" apply to videos? LOL.

73, Jim Wades (K8SIW)

> CW BUGS

> Posted by: "Bill" w2blc@... w2blc
>
> Mon Jul 28, 2008 6:42 am (PDT)
>
> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
> movement.
>
> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.

>
> Am I missing something here?
>

# 1001. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs moving around

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-29 03:57:10 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1000  Message: 1001

Bill,

The Blue Racer "feels" like it is tippy. It really has never tipped over. Often the desktop was glossy and the bugs if they had old rubber feet which had hardened had no ability to sit still.

If the bug moved, the operator would feel the need to hold the bug. This the operator's didn't like because it hindered their ability to hold the telegram in the other hand, flip the pages to the second page of "fifty words" as telegrams were often done, tune the receiver. On a ship the Blue Racer was quite unpopular because of its size and when seas got rough the bugs were rendered useless because of rolling and pitching of the ship which would alternately make the key "light" and "heavy" and sometimes even produce a "key down" of a second or so as stomach, bug and ship moved in a sickening shudder as the prop cavatated.

73

DR

# 1002. Re: Bugs moving around

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-29 13:55:11 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 1000  Message: 1002

I agree on the aging rubber feet problem. The best thing to do is to replace the feet. The second best is to "stick on" new bottoms to the feet.

I have a sheet of 1/2 in diameter rubber jewelry box feet protectors that are about 1/32 inch thick. They work great for putting life back into the old hard as a rock feet that are original.

Found them in a crafts store.

# 1003. Re: Bugs moving around

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-29 15:21:50 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1000  Message: 1003

Bill,
The third best thing (I'll respect your top two) is to place a bug-base-size piece of rubber shelf liner under the bug. Its foolproof, and veeerrrry inexpensive. If you take reasonable care cutting out your piece, it looks good too.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <w2blc@...> wrote:
>
> I agree on the aging rubber feet problem. The best thing to do is to
> replace the feet. The second best is to "stick on" new bottoms to the
> feet.
>
> I have a sheet of 1/2 in diameter rubber jewelry box feet protectors
> that are about 1/32 inch thick. They work great for putting life back
> into the old hard as a rock feet that are original.
>
> Found them in a crafts store.
>

# 1004. Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-28 17:08:12 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 1004  Message: 1004

Hi Bill:

I think you hit the proper point when you say "set it very light." A properly adjusted Vibroplex should not be moving all over the table, and if it does, it usually indicates excessive tension on the dit retractive spring and/or the dash tension spring. Spring tension should be just enough to provide crisp, snappy performance. On most properly adjusted bugs, the spring tension nuts will be backed out most or the way.

There seems to be a host of ills associated with the adjustment and manipulation of speed keys out there, and the sound of some of them on-air reflects this. A carefully adjusted bug should be easy to operate and provide good readable code that is balanced and similar to the ratio provided by the newer electronic keyers. If one follows the instructions provided by Vibroplex or other documentation available on the Internet, it should eliminate any such problems.

Here is a link to a pdf on bug adjustment available on the QMN/NREN net web site, which you can share with interested individuals:

http://98.243.20.97:81/nren/docs/adjustbug.pdf

I am sure there are also a few links out there to the old QST article that Vibroplex used to distribute explaining proper bug adjustment.

As to you-tube videos...I'm afraid to look. Does the term "blind leading the blind" apply to videos? LOL.

73, Jim Wades (K8SIW)

On Mon, Jul 28, 2008 at 10:58 AM, <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> CW BUGS
> Posted by: "Bill" w2blc@... w2blc
>
> Mon Jul 28, 2008 6:42 am (PDT)
>
> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
> movement.
>
> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-

> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>
> Am I missing something here?
>

# 1005. Re: [cw_bugs] Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 04:50:51 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 990  Message: 1005

hermit wrote:
>
>
> Sounds like someone is slapping their bug with a vengence. I have a
> Vibroplex Anniversary bug and a VizBug and I get no movement at all. I
> remember some time ago watching a video of a lady using a bug and she
> had really long finger nails. She was slappin' that thing like it was
> her husband - funniest thing I ever saw. Sure wish I could remember
> what site I saw that on. Sure is worth a look-agn. Hi.

If it's the one I'm thinking of, that was Denise Stoops -- I think
that's her first name -- one of the commercial ops at KPH and a VERY
good op. I didn't laugh too much while listening to her code and
wishing I could operate enough to do that, too!

I'm surprised DR hasn't mentioned this yet...

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1006. Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 11:44:48 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 990  Message: 1006

Earl,
I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a name
to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>
> If it's the one I'm thinking of, that was Denise Stoops -- I think
> that's her first name -- one of the commercial ops at KPH and a VERY
> good op. I didn't laugh too much while listening to her code and
> wishing I could operate enough to do that, too!
>
> I'm surprised DR hasn't mentioned this yet...
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> --
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>

# 1007. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 15:56:31 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 990  Message: 1007

On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> Earl,
> I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a name
> to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> Milt

Hello Group,

Here is a picture of Denice (note spelling)
http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-DEN-3.jpg
She is de nice one in the middle. Of course she and "Little Dick"
were younger but they still look beautiful today after they've had
their chrome cleaned in preparation for a serious Morse workout.

Denice is a long time Morse operator, but she only recently got her
amateur radio license. She is KI6BBR - and she also recently upgraded
from her 3rd class commercial CW license to her 2nd class commercial
CW license - and it boggles my mind why she didn't take her Extra at
the same time. The 2nd class CW is more difficult than the Extra.

73

DR

On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> Earl,
> I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a name
> to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> Milt
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@...> wrote:
>>
>> If it's the one I'm thinking of, that was Denise Stoops -- I think
>> that's her first name -- one of the commercial ops at KPH and a VERY
>> good op. I didn't laugh too much while listening to her code and
>> wishing I could operate enough to do that, too!
>>
>> I'm surprised DR hasn't mentioned this yet...
>>
>> 7 3
>> Earl
>>
>> --
>> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs

>> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>>
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1008. Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 16:10:42 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1004  Message: 1008

On Tue, Jul 29, 2008 at 1:08 AM, James Wades <jameswades@...> wrote:
>
> I think you hit the proper point when you say "set it very light." A
> properly adjusted Vibroplex should not be moving all over the table, ... ... ... Spring tension
> should be just enough to provide crisp, snappy performance. On most properly adjusted bugs, the spring tension nuts will be backed out most or the way.

Hello Jim,

I agree with you about spring tension - that is how I run my bugs - with the exception that when I slow down the bug it feels more comfortable with a few more turns (maybe 3 to 5) of the dash tension spring.

But I'm afraid that people will MISUNDERSTAND what you are saying and translate "set very light" to mean that the spacings are very small.

Operators just don't like their keys moving! Other makers or semi-automatic keys had holes in their keys for mounting screws!

In all the stations of USA telegraphy - wired and wireless - I've never seen a "station bug" just a station key, a hand key, usually a Bunnell for wire and a J37 or Johnson/NYE Viking key for wireless.

People provided their own bugs, and since they usually shared time at the operations desk, the bug was only there for a 8 hour shift, so they stuck it with spittle on the rubber feet, or with electricians putty.

I am just pointing this out because there is a big tendancy for many folks to misunderstand "light" to mean that you set the key up like a paddle and keyer - which does NOT work. The mechanical action of a bug has to be set surprisingly wide otherwise you get variable speed dots and sparky poor sounding dots.

73

DR

# 1009. Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 16:16:07 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 990  Message: 1009

David,
Is that a Blue Racer on the operating desk on the right side of the
pic?
Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> > Earl,
> > I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a
name
> > to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> > Milt
>
> Hello Group,
>
> Here is a picture of Denice (note spelling)
> http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-DEN-3.jpg
> She is de nice one in the middle. Of course she and "Little Dick"
> were younger but they still look beautiful today after they've had
> their chrome cleaned in preparation for a serious Morse workout.
>
> Denice is a long time Morse operator, but she only recently got her
> amateur radio license. She is KI6BBR - and she also recently
upgraded
> from her 3rd class commercial CW license to her 2nd class
commercial
> CW license - and it boggles my mind why she didn't take her Extra at
> the same time. The 2nd class CW is more difficult than the Extra.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso <k4oso@...> wrote:
> > Earl,
> > I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a
name
> > to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> > Milt
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <needhame1@> wrote:
> >>
> >> If it's the one I'm thinking of, that was Denise Stoops -- I
think

> >> that's her first name -- one of the commercial ops at KPH and a
VERY
> >> good op. I didn't laugh too much while listening to her code and
> >> wishing I could operate enough to do that, too!
> >>
> >> I'm surprised DR hasn't mentioned this yet...
> >>
> >> 7 3
> >> Earl
> >>
> >> --
> >> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> >> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> >> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> >> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> >>
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1010. Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 16:49:08 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 1004  Message: 1010

Hi David:

Yes, the tensioning issue applies only to the springs. When it comes to spacing, I was taught that a spacing of approximately 11 to 15 thousandths was an appropriate distance for movement, and my experience utilizing bugs has tended to confirm this. Over the years, I have observed that if this gap is made too wide, some operators tend to split their characters, contributing to imbalance in their sending. Excessive distance and the related momentum needed to manipulate the key contributes to that annoying situation of chasing the bug across the table. As you suggest, too little distance results in a severely limited range of adjustment and poor performance.

On some surfaces, even a properly adjusted bug will move around a bit. This includes smooth table tops, some varnished surfaces, or in those cases already discussed in which bugs have old, dried out rubber feet or the like. I have used the rubber shelf liner cut to hide under the bug for those situations.

Straight keys are an interesting topic as well. You are quite right that in most cases, the standard straight key was typically provided in an office, and operators provided their own bug. A bug was a very personal thing, and woe to the person who adjusted a fellow operators bug to his own prefernece without permission. LOL

By the way, I finally took a moment or two to check out those "you tube" videos someone had mentioned. Interesting. You can quite easily pick out the operators who learned CW on a keyer and then moved to a bug. They tend to make the dashes by attempting to manipulate the dash paddle with the finger, as opposed to developing a proper rythm with a "roll" of the wrist. Because of this, the dashes tend to be of unequal length. As you suggest, using a bug requires a different technique.

I am always surprised at the number of hams today who learn CW first on an electronic keyer. I conducted a CW net training class for a group of experienced ham operators a few years back and deployed one of those Army portable CW classrooms with the multiple straight keys at each seat. I was really surprised to find that the vast majority of operators had never used a straight key and almost no one could send good, readable code with a standard key. Amazing. I remain of the opinion that every ham should start with a straight key. It would do much to inculcate a sense of rythm and provide a better foundation for learning to use other keys, bugs included.

Thanks for the clarification on my message and "CW forever!."

73,

JW

On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 11:10 AM, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Hello Jim,
>
> I agree with you about spring tension - that is how I run my bugs -
> with the exception that when I slow down the bug it feels more
> comfortable with a few more turns (maybe 3 to 5) of the dash tension
> spring.
>
> But I'm afraid that people will MISUNDERSTAND what you are saying and
> translate "set very light" to mean that the spacings are very small.
>
> Operators just don't like their keys moving! Other makers or
> semi-automatic keys had holes in their keys for mounting screws!
>
> In all the stations of USA telegraphy - wired and wireless - I've
> never seen a "station bug" just a station key, a hand key, usually a
> Bunnell for wire and a J37 or Johnson/NYE Viking key for wireless.
>
> People provided their own bugs, and since they usually shared time at
> the operations desk, the bug was only there for a 8 hour shift, so
> they stuck it with spittle on the rubber feet, or with electricians
> putty.
>
> I am just pointing this out because there is a big tendancy for many
> folks to misunderstand "light" to mean that you set the key up like a
> paddle and keyer - which does NOT work. The mechanical action of a
> bug has to be set surprisingly wide otherwise you get variable speed
> dots and sparky poor sounding dots.
>
> 73
>
> DR

# 1011. Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 17:28:52 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 1004  Message: 1011

JW es DR,
I am enjoying your instructional comments as always. My desk top is slick and the rubber shelf liner works very well for my "Original". However, when I use the Blue Racer I resort to double sided tape. Probably my rubber liner isn't quite good enough (I see many different styles).

73,
Troy
----- Original Message -----
From: James Wades<mailto:jameswades@gmail.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2008 9:49 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

----On some surfaces, even a properly adjusted bug will move around a bit. This includes smooth table tops, some varnished surfaces, or in those cases already discussed in which bugs have old, dried out rubber feet or the like. I have used the rubber shelf liner cut to hide under the bug for those situations.----73,

JW

# 1012. Re: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 18:23:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1004  Message: 1012

I couldn't agree more with your post, Jim.

I try to tell bug users that the arm is mostly or fully on the desk, and that the motion that should be used is like that of turning a door knob, with the fingers and thumb gently holding - but not pusing back and forth - the button shaped knob and the flat paddle of the bug and that ALL the motion that actuates the bug comes from the forearm and the wrist rotating but NONE of the motion comes from the fingers.

If you do this somehow the mass of the arm creates smooth dashes and because the LONG muscles of the forearm are used, the operator does not tire quickly or get fatigued.

73

David N1EA

# 1013. Re: Digest Number 396

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 18:30:51 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1004  Message: 1013

Ha ha!
David, my bug sending starts out with lots of "fingers". But as I
tire, I'm almost "forced" to bring my arm into play. Also, at higher
speeds, I can't handle it with fingers.----the arm has to be used.
Milt--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> I couldn't agree more with your post, Jim.
>
> I try to tell bug users that the arm is mostly or fully on the desk,
> and that the motion that should be used is like that of turning a door
> knob, with the fingers and thumb gently holding - but not pusing back
> and forth - the button shaped knob and the flat paddle of the bug and
> that ALL the motion that actuates the bug comes from the forearm and
> the wrist rotating but NONE of the motion comes from the fingers.
>
> If you do this somehow the mass of the arm creates smooth dashes and
> because the LONG muscles of the forearm are used, the operator does
> not tire quickly or get fatigued.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

# 1014. Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-30 19:49:26 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 990  Message: 1014

Bill,

It might depend on which version of the Blue Racer people are referring to. It's my impression that the current "2000" version has a higher center of gravity than your 1962 model due to the use of the larger, Original Bug mechanism on a narrow base. I've tried a Blue Racer 2000, but not the Blue Racer of old, so I never made a side-by-side comparison. I suspect the older one is a much better balanced key.

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <w2blc@...> wrote:
>
> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
> movement.
>
> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>
> Am I missing something here?
>

# 1015. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-31 01:53:02 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 990  Message: 1015

Hi, All -

???? This has been a most interesting thread, and following it has given me a lot of insight into the history of bugs and their operators.? As a bug user and bug designer, it also has prompted me to make some comments.? It is true that there are challenges in getting a bug to work according to one's personal taste. Part of this is that the design of bugs (for obvious commercial reasons) has been static for 50 years or more.? While many beautiful bugs are still being produced today (such as the Viz bugs, the Schurr bug, the elegant CHD bugs, and several other makers - sorry to leave some folks out), these bugs are essentially the same designs that have been around for decades.? About 8 years ago, I decided to try a fresh approach to bug design to see if I could address some of the perennial problems.? Some of these results are shown on my website at
http:/wb9lpu.googlepages.com
While I would hope for you to browse the whole site, I would like to point out one solution to the problem of adjusting the dot weight.? This is shown at
http:/wb9lpu.googlepages.com/DotWgt-1.pdf
The file at
http:/wb9lpu.googlepages.com/Demo-1.mp3
is an audio demonstration of the results shown in the .pdf file.
???? I hope that these comments don't sound self-serving, because I really appreciate the feeling of getting a historic instrument to work the way it did many hears ago (as my modest bug collection may show), and I also enjoy hearing from and about those who used telegraphic instruments for a living.? So keep up with the excellent posts, and I will keep learning.

??? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message----- hese
From: nzeronv
Sent: Jul 30, 2008 3:49 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Moving bugs

Bill,

It might depend on which version of the Blue Racer people are
referring to. It's my impression that the current "2000" version has
a higher center of gravity than your 1962 model due to the use of the
larger, Original Bug mechanism on a narrow base. I've tried a Blue
Racer 2000, but not the Blue Racer of old, so I never made a
side-by-side comparison. I suspect the older one is a much better
balanced key.

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <;w2blc@...> wrote:
>

> I have read many posts that make comments about Blue Racers tipping
> over, rocking, moving all over the desk, etc. What gives with that?
>
> I recently bought a '62 model and really like it. I was able to set it
> very light - as I have my VizBug - and it shows no signs of any
> movement.
>
> My bugs are a little heavier to operate than my Vibroplex single lever
> paddle - but not that much. I sure don't look like some of the "you-
> Tube" examples slapping the bug around like it is an enemy.
>
> Am I missing something here?
>

# 1016. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Moving bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-31 03:14:51 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 990  Message: 1016

Denice corrects the name of the key. It is not little, it is Mister.
Dick. See below message.

73
DR

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: denice stoops <da.stoops@...>
Date: Thu, Jul 31, 2008 at 12:26 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Moving bugs
To: David Ring <n1ea@...>

CORRECTION!!!!

it's not Little dick"... it's

Mister Dick

loosely based on a Charles Dickens character "Who says you can never go home"

please correct on the e-list

David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:

On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso wrote:
> Earl,
> I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a name
> to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> Milt

Hello Group,

Here is a picture of Denice (note spelling)
http://www.radiomarine.org/Pictures/HIST-RS-DEN-3.jpg
She is de nice one in the middle. Of course she and "Little Dick"
were younger but they still look beautiful today after they've had
their chrome cleaned in preparation for a serious Morse workout.

Denice is a long time Morse operator, but she only recently got her
amateur radio license. She is KI6BBR - and she also recently upgraded
from her 3rd class commercial CW license to her 2nd class commercial
CW license - and it boggles my mind why she didn't take her Extra at
the same time. The 2nd class CW is more difficult than the Extra.

73

DR

On Wed, Jul 30, 2008 at 7:44 PM, k4oso wrote:
> Earl,
> I'm sure DR has mentioned Denise. By the way, she has a given a name
> to her Vibroplex Deluxe Original,....."Little Dick".
> Milt
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham wrote:
>>
>> If it's the one I'm thinking of, that was Denise Stoops -- I think
>> that's her first name -- one of the commercial ops at KPH and a VERY
>> good op. I didn't laugh too much while listening to her code and
>> wishing I could operate enough to do that, too!
>>
>> I'm surprised DR hasn't mentioned this yet...
>>
>> 7 3
>> Earl
>>
>> --
>> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
>> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1017. blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-07-31 17:10:58 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1017  Message: 1017
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

It is fun to have used some old blue racers, then known as # 4. The one in the imbedded photo is from 1917 and was used on the Canadian Pacifc RR.

I have the original finger pieces stored, and used home made ones from ebony. The old ones are brittle, spell that, fragile.

The key is faster than the Original because the frame is mounted further back on the base (I suppose for stability) which shortens the length of the vibrator. However, the old ones like this one with two weights will slow down to the low 20's. WU standardized to 28 wpm, and it had not trouble doing that.

Later racers, especially those from the forties onward, had a different main spring which to me seems stiffer. it doesn't deflect as much, has to be "struck" harder to get it going. The old spring was blued spring metal, which while I think a better spring, it could and did rust. The new ones are plated. i have used an example of the new ones before plating, and it works great. As soon as it is plated, it is miserable.

The old 1917 racer is light, but not instable. Spittle is the normal approach and normally sufficient ;-)

73, FD - kt5x

www.kt5x.com

# 1018. Re: Quiet bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-01 00:07:39 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 991  Message: 1018

For those following this thread - I have removed the mods and put the Blue racer back to they way it was meant to be. It does clackety clack, unlike the VizBug. I think this is just another statement that each key has its own personality.

Anyone ever look at WB9PLU's bugs? Very interesting. See them here: http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/ and look for the bugs that he builds.

# 1019. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Quiet bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-01 00:59:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 991  Message: 1019

I liked your Stealth Blue Racer, Bill.

I was going to build one of those.

73

DR

On Fri, Aug 1, 2008 at 8:07 AM, Bill <w2blc@...> wrote:
> For those following this thread - I have removed the mods and put the
> Blue racer back to they way it was meant to be. It does clackety clack,
> unlike the VizBug. I think this is just another statement that each key
> has its own personality.
>
> Anyone ever look at WB9PLU's bugs? Very interesting. See them here:
> http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/ and look for the bugs that he builds.
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1020. Re: [cw_bugs] blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-01 05:04:10 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1017  Message: 1020
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1021. Re: [cw_bugs] blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-01 11:56:31 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1017  Message: 1021

I recently got stung by the Bug bug and now my collection is up to 4 bugs. I just got my first Blue Racer yesterday. It is a 1960 Blue Racer in standard finish (gray base) so it would be the later bugs (not the newest kind). I have not used the #4 Blue Racer yet, but hope to someday.

First QSO on it was with Stan, ZL2BLQ. It has a bug tamer on it and it sends nice smooth CW.

Jason N8XE

David Ring wrote:
> Oh, FD, I am a sick man. I lust after keys, blue racers as pretty as FD's
> blue racer. A prudy woman doesn't turn my haid any mo' but a spiffy blue
> racer gets my blood boiling.
>
> This key has to be a woman? Right FD? Sweet sleek sexy and blue!
>
> I have to get my Bunnell catalog from under my mattress tonight. I think it
> has some old Vibroplex keys pasted into it as well as some spark coils. It
> is going to be a nice night.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
>

--

"A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding spouse."
http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition

# 1022. Re: blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-01 14:32:38 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1017  Message: 1022

Jason,
If you want to send smooth CW, the old model Presentation, with the LaHiff adjustable mainspring is the bug to use. I foolishly sold my first one. (I wanted to sell a key to buy other stuff and the buyer asked me which was the best sender. Being an honest guy, I told him,....so he bought it). I just recently acquired another one (a real steal!), and lo and behold, its just as smooth as the first. This one will not leave the shack!.
73 and enjoy your Racer (I'm enjoying my three),
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Jason Hissong <jhisson1@...> wrote:
>
> I recently got stung by the Bug bug and now my collection is up to
4
> bugs. I just got my first Blue Racer yesterday. It is a 1960 Blue
> Racer in standard finish (gray base) so it would be the later bugs
(not
> the newest kind). I have not used the #4 Blue Racer yet, but hope
to
> someday.
>
> First QSO on it was with Stan, ZL2BLQ. It has a bug tamer on it
and it
> sends nice smooth CW.
>
> Jason N8XE
>
> David Ring wrote:
> > Oh, FD, I am a sick man. I lust after keys, blue racers as
pretty as FD's
> > blue racer. A prudy woman doesn't turn my haid any mo' but a
spiffy blue
> > racer gets my blood boiling.
> >
> > This key has to be a woman? Right FD? Sweet sleek sexy and blue!
> >
> > I have to get my Bunnell catalog from under my mattress tonight.
I think it
> > has some old Vibroplex keys pasted into it as well as some spark
coils. It
> > is going to be a nice night.
> >
> > 73
> >

> > DR
> >
> >
>
>
> --
>
> "A long journey starts with the first step and an understanding
spouse."
> http://www.undermidnight.com - astronomy and astrophotography
> http://www.n8xe.com - ham radio
> http://www.jasonhissong.com - electronic music composition
>

# 1023. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-02 06:54:47 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1017  Message: 1023
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1024. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-02 07:00:25 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1017  Message: 1024
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1025. Re: blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-02 14:25:02 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1017  Message: 1025

David,
Your utterings have been saved alongside other, prior jewels of knowledge.
Thanks,
Milt K4OSO

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Oh, this will make what I said clearer.
>
> Around 1980 a new model of Original key was introduced called the Original
> Presentation model. It is just an Original with a gold top plate and a
> jeweled movement. In other words - the DISTINGUISHING feature of the
> Presentation that made it a whole different type of key - the La Hiff
> adjustable mainspring was DISCONTINUED as a cost cutting measure.
>
> Thus the key just became the Original model with a Presentation finish.
>
> Other cost cutting measures were done like removing the silver braid across
> the jeweled contacts to improve conductivity across the non-conductive
> synthetic ruby. I believe the jewels that Vibroplex now uses are
> conductive.
>
> The screw which held the trunnion pin (note correct spelling - Vibroplex
> spells it incorrectly) in place has been removed to save labor and materials
> costs.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>

# 1026. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: blue racers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-02 15:23:13 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1017  Message: 1026
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1027. Come join the NAQCC!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-05 16:52:26 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1027  Message: 1027

Come join the NAQCC and help us in our mission to preserve and encourage CW activity on our amateur bands. The NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club) is for ALL CW enthusiasts around the world.

Our members include "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time. Our club runs monthly sprints and challenges. Plus we sponsor some additional special on-air activities during the year.

Membership is free and once you join you're automatically a lifetime member! So sign up today and help us keep CW alive and well.

Visit our web site at http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/. You'll find info on our various activities plus an online membership application.

We look forward to your support and hope to soon see your call added to our membership roster.

73,
Paul/KD2MX
NAQCC Membership Recruiter

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Larry, W2LJ - NAQCC Asst. Publicity Director
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer
Norm, VE3SIC, Canadian & DX Publicity Officer

# 1028. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-08-09 23:17:01 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1028

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for August, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200808.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize (a classic book in Morse on CD donated by Chuck Adams K7QO).

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The member in each division who makes the highest score and uses a vintage straight key.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1029. Admin: Don't do Grouply!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-02 01:38:53 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1029  Message: 1029

There's a new thing called Grouply, which purports to be one thing, and is another. See the below message I got from another group -- I know it's true, as I've seen some of the spam emails elsewhere. Let's not let it get here!

7 3
Earl
--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

List Members:

I have received an email from a moderator of another Yahoo Group, in fact, several, and would like to pass it on to you so you can prevent this from occurring on this list, although one member has already been compromised by this entity. The information:

==========
Here is a moderator's note from another list I am on.
I hope nobody on this list bit on this bit of spam.

have been alerted to a problem that so far has eluded us, but has been
seen on other
YahooGroups.

An email organization known as "Grouply" asks that you join, and use then their service to
better track all your various YahooGroups memberships - like an RSS fed
thing I presume.

To join Grouply, you register with them by giving them your Yahoo ID and
password. Bad
idea. Once they have your ID and password, they hijack your account and
send emails to your
groups asking more folks to join Grouply. For a moderator of a list, they could conceivably
take control of your list and do with it as they will.

Any sign of 'grouply" activity on these lists will be dealt with by immediate banning of the

poster, since their account will already have been compromised.
==========

I have checked this out on several inquiries, and have found that this is an identity stealing organization. Please do not respond to anything you might receive from anyone requesting you "join" grouply.com. If you do, delete them immediately from your email address book and take steps to further increase the security on your Yahoo ID account, like changing your password.

If you have any questions about the further dangers of this problem, you can email directly off list.

# 1030. Deluxe Vibroplex bearing conductivity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-12 21:36:28 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1030  Message: 1030

A question for the experts

Just for grins, I checked the bearing conductivity of my new Vibroplex Original Gold bug (deluxe bearings) with a Fluke multimeter. After insulating the dot coil spring, lever stop screw, damper, etc., I found there is no short between the frame and lever.

To compare, I did the same test with my Anniversary Original (standard bearings) and of course it was a dead short.

This confirms what I have read about the "jeweled" bearings -- they don't conduct by themselves. The bug appears to get the most constant conductivity through the dot coil spring. The lever stop screw and damper also conduct, but only during dashes.

My dad has a 1949 Deluxe with a copper braid running from the frame to the lever. I suspect the braid was necessary for the old transmitters, but with newer gear the dot coil spring suffices by itself. Is this the case?

Thanks,

Jack - N0NV

# 1031. Re: [cw_bugs] Deluxe Vibroplex bearing conductivity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-12 21:48:42 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1030  Message: 1031

Jack,

The pre-Maine deluxe bugs had little screws on the lever which attached to the frame with braid. Peter Garsoe - the owner at that time - simplified the construction of the key. He took away the drilling, tapping, screws and braid, took away the drilling and tapping and screw in the little machine screw that held the trunnion pin at an certain height. He did other things too! I guess he discontinued the Vibroplex Champion, Lightning Bug and Presentation as well. He went down to just one model the Original - now available in three finishes, paint, chrome or gold.

I've never measured the newer bearings - but if they don't conduct, when all metal is not touching the lever, then the source of the conductance is the dot spring.

So make sure you dot spring is clean and conducts!

73

DR
On Fri, Sep 12, 2008 at 3:36 PM, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
> A question for the experts
>
> Just for grins, I checked the bearing conductivity of my new Vibroplex
> Original Gold bug (deluxe bearings) with a Fluke multimeter. After
> insulating the dot coil spring, lever stop screw, damper, etc., I
> found there is no short between the frame and lever.
>
> To compare, I did the same test with my Anniversary Original (standard
> bearings) and of course it was a dead short.
>
> This confirms what I have read about the "jeweled" bearings -- they
> don't conduct by themselves. The bug appears to get the most constant
> conductivity through the dot coil spring. The lever stop screw and
> damper also conduct, but only during dashes.
>
> My dad has a 1949 Deluxe with a copper braid running from the frame to
> the lever. I suspect the braid was necessary for the old
> transmitters, but with newer gear the dot coil spring suffices by
> itself. Is this the case?
>
> Thanks,
>
> Jack - N0NV

```
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
```

# 1032. Re:Deluxe Vibroplex bearing conductivity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-13 16:11:48 UTC
From: John Snell / G0RDO
Topic: 1030  Message: 1032

Yes - you're spot on there ( or should I say dot on ).
Cheerio from John Snell. / G0RDO
www.morsemad.com

# 1033. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-14 21:12:37 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1033

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!
This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for September, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200809.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize (a classic book in Morse on CD donated by Chuck Adams K7QO).

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and having all ten digits (0-9) somewhere in the member numbers in their log.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you do not already have a NAQCC member number, now is the time to sign up and get one. Lifetime membership is free and there is no obligation on your part. Just fill out the form on the NAQCC website and receive your membership number and certificate FREE!!

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1034. CW BUG.....LOOKING FOR INFORMATION

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-17 20:35:32 UTC
From: SailSouth4Fun@aol.com
Topic: 1034  Message: 1034

Hi all. I found an old bug that I got from my college radio club
years ago. It has the name "Electronic Specialty Mfg. Co.,
Cedar Rapids, Iowa on the bottom. It has a gray base and is heavy as a brick.
Does anyone know of this company and how old the bug may be?
Thanks. Gary.

Gary W. Froemming, CTC
Certified Travel Counselor
Glendale, Arizona, USA
WB7CAG / W7GWF
33.5601N / 112.1841W
DM33vn
FISTS # 11904
SKCC # 4360
10-10 # 12753
NAQCC# 2694
FPQRP# 2035
MQFD: Member
CW-QRP: Member
EchoLink Node# 294370

**********Psssst...Have you heard the news? There's a new fashion blog,
plus the latest fall trends and hair styles at StyleList.com.
(http://www.stylelist.com/trends?ncid=aolsty00050000000014)

# 1035. Re: [cw_bugs] CW BUG.....LOOKING FOR INFORMATION

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-17 21:32:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1034  Message: 1035

1927-1934 unless it was "old unused stock" when that company changed
it's name to Speed-X in 1934.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA
=30

On Wed, Sep 17, 2008 at 8:35 PM, <SailSouth4Fun@...> wrote:
> Hi all. I found an old bug that I got from my college radio club
> years ago. It has the name "Electronic Specialty Mfg. Co.,
> Cedar Rapids, Iowa on the bottom. It has a gray base and is heavy as a
> brick.

# 1036. Run For the Bacon - tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-09-21 19:59:27 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1036  Message: 1036

Hello everyone!

The Flying Pig's monthly "Run For the Bacon" QRP CW contest is tonight!

This friendly, low pressure, 2 hour sprint runs from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern DST.

For all the details, please visit http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

The Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is now maintaining an archive of previous "pig-runs" for your viewing pleasure.

See you in the troughs!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1037. NAQCC Special Event Station N3A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-02 14:33:22 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1037  Message: 1037

We invite all ops to come help the North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC) celebrate its Fourth Anniversary.

How?

By working our special event station N3A which will be active during the whole month of October.

A handsome certificate and/or QSL card is available to everyone who works N3A and requests one or both.

We also have 3 special certificates for the FISTS members who make the most different band QSO's with our N3A stations during the month and in the FISTS and NAQCC sprints.

N3A will be operated from all 10 US call areas with the appropriate portable designator - N3A/1, N3A/2....N3A/0.

All 10 calls will be active in the FISTS sprint on the 11th and our NAQCC sprint on the 14th (15th UTC).

Full details including an operating schedule and how to request the certificate and QSL are on the "N3A Operation" page on the club web site - search "NAQCC" in your favorite search engine, or follow this link to our website (www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/main_n3a.html).

Join us in celebrating our Fourth Anniversary, share the fun and earn a few certificates and special QSLs!

This is also a good opportunity to join NAQCC. Lifetime membership is free and you will receive your membership number, membership certificate and starter kit FREE! No cost or obligation on your part.

73,
Tom, WY3H (NAQCC President)
John, K3WWP (NAQCC VP)

# 1038. HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-02 15:02:53 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1038  Message: 1038

Hi gang,

Hope to get some direction on using glue to laminate some plexiglass for a HB bug. The lamination is for part of the arm and finger knob pieces. Being able to sand down/smooth the plex after the glue job is very important.

I have tried expoxy (too many bubbles), contact cement (which looks best), and acetone (bubbles again). Acetone is supposed to do the melting of the plastic but it is cloudy and looks.....
....well, you know!

The plex pieces were given to me and are 1/4 to 3/8 inches thick, so its glue time.

Thanks for your thoughts?

73....Walter - K5EST

# 1039. Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-02 16:16:09 UTC
From: w9ya@qrparci.net
Topic: 1038  Message: 1039

Hey Walter and the gang;

A *good* (well-stocked) hobby store should be able to offer advice and product to accomplish what you want. Often there will be examples, sometimes hanging from the ceilings, of the results you can expect.

BTW, this was a good question !

Vy 72;

Bob
w9ya

> Hi gang,
>
> Hope to get some direction on using glue to
> laminate some plexiglass for a HB bug. The
> lamination is for part of the arm and finger
> knob pieces. Being able to sand down/smooth
> the plex after the glue job is very important.
>
> I have tried expoxy (too many bubbles), contact
> cement (which looks best), and acetone (bubbles
> again). Acetone is supposed to do the melting
> of the plastic but it is cloudy and looks.....
> ....well, you know!
>
> The plex pieces were given to me and are 1/4 to
> 3/8 inches thick, so its glue time.
>
> Thanks for your thoughts?
>
> 73....Walter - K5EST
>
>

# 1040. Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-02 16:56:54 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1038  Message: 1040

Hi, All -

When I have had to glue smooth (polished) surfaces of Lucite together, I have found chloroform to work very well. Even with clear lucite there is no sign of the bond between the two surfaces. If the surfaces are not quite smooth, or if they are uneven, you can make a glue of lucite "sawdust" or filings dissolved in choroform until a syrupy consistence is reached. Not sure where you can get chloroform - from the drugstore, maybe?

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: w9ya@...
Sent: Oct 2, 2008 12:16 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug

Hey Walter and the gang;

A *good* (well-stocked) hobby store should be able to offer advice and
product to accomplish what you want. Often there will be examples,
sometimes hanging from the ceilings, of the results you can expect.

BTW, this was a good question !

Vy 72;

Bob
w9ya

> Hi gang,
>
> Hope to get some direction on using glue to
> laminate some plexiglass for a HB bug. The
> lamination is for part of the arm and finger
> knob pieces. Being able to sand down/smooth
> the plex after the glue job is very important.
>
> I have tried expoxy (too many bubbles), contact
> cement (which looks best), and acetone (bubbles
> again). Acetone is supposed to do the melting
> of the plastic but it is cloudy and looks.....
> ....well, you know!
>
> The plex pieces were given to me and are 1/4 to
> 3/8 inches thick, so its glue time.
>
> Thanks for your thoughts?

>
> 73....Walter - K5EST
>
>

# 1041. Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-03 14:48:56 UTC
From: Walter - K5EST
Topic: 1038  Message: 1041

GM Bob and Gang,

Bob, thanks for the Hobby Shop idea. There are none close to me so next time I go in towards the city I will have a list of them to visit. That would do me good to see what is new in the hobby cars/planes/ trains etc. that would be of use in ham radio and building gear.

Happy Friday....73....Walter - K5EST

# 1042. Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-03 14:57:00 UTC
From: Walter - K5EST
Topic: 1038  Message: 1042

```
.............................
.......top reply...........
............................
```

Hi Richard.....Mr. RotoBug (great stuff)

OK will look for some chloroform. They will probably make
me sign for nearly anything that is not distilled water!
Thanks for your fix idea!

Happy Friday....73....Walter - K5EST

--- On Thu, 10/2/08, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
From: Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] HB plex bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Thursday, October 2, 2008, 11:56 AM

Hi, All -

When I have had to glue smooth (polished) surfaces of Lucite together, I have found chloroform to work very well. Even with clear lucite there is no sign of the bond between the two surfaces. If the surfaces are not quite smooth, or if they are uneven, you can make a glue of lucite "sawdust" or filings dissolved in choroform until a syrupy consistence is reached. Not sure where you can get chloroform - from the drugstore, maybe?

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1043. Left Hand Bug Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-08 20:31:29 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1043  Message: 1043

Left Hand Bug Wanted: I have Lightning Bugs, Originals, Blue Racers and SpeedX I'd be willing to trade, depending on what you have. Also will consider a direct buy.

Please email me offline.
Tnx es 73,
Milt k4oso

# 1044. Re: HB plex bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-10 01:32:46 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 1038  Message: 1044

I use shoe goo. It is like a clear rubber cement, but dries harder. I have used it on clear plastics before with no discoloration. This stuff has another benefit, you can get remove it if you need to. I used it to glue some plexiglass to a piece of corian for a HB key. I scrapped that key out and the shoo goo came right off and I reused the corian again. Give it a try, it is good stuff to have around the shack.
73, Bill NT9K
http://www.nt9k.com

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k5est" <k5est@...> wrote:
>
> Hi gang,
>
> Hope to get some direction on using glue to
> laminate some plexiglass for a HB bug. The
> lamination is for part of the arm and finger
> knob pieces. Being able to sand down/smooth
> the plex after the glue job is very important.
>
> I have tried expoxy (too many bubbles), contact
> cement (which looks best), and acetone (bubbles
> again). Acetone is supposed to do the melting
> of the plastic but it is cloudy and looks.....
> ....well, you know!
>
> The plex pieces were given to me and are 1/4 to
> 3/8 inches thick, so its glue time.
>
> Thanks for your thoughts?
>
> 73....Walter - K5EST
>

# 1045. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-12 20:43:10 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1045

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for October, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200810.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: Those working the most different special event calls (N3A/#) in each of our 5 sprint divisions.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1046. Run For the Bacon - Sunday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-19 00:59:59 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1046  Message: 1046

Hello everyone!

Holy cow! Is it the third Sunday in October already? Where's the time going to?

The Flying Pig's monthly "Run For the Bacon" QRP CW contest is this Sunday night! The last one before Halloween and the last one before Election Day and the last one for this year in Daylight Savings Time!

This friendly, low pressure, 2 hour sprint runs from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern DST.

For all the details, please visit http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

The Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is now maintaining an archive of previous "pig-runs" for your viewing pleasure.

See you in the troughs!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1047. ANNOUNCMENT: SKCC Straight Key Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-10-19 05:18:44 UTC
From: Randy
Topic: 1047  Message: 1047

This Months Straight Key Sprint will take place on Wednesday, 22 October, from oooo to 0200 UTC...Note that this is TUESDAY night in the Americas.

Although it is a contest, the SKS (straight key sprint) is rather informal. SKCC members
are a friendly and encouraging group who will gladly match your speed and skill level. Encouraging beginners is a big part of the SKCC and the SKS. The SKS is open to all Amateur operators.

All Log entries are due on the Friday after the event.

Please follow the link below for complete rules:
http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/sprint-rules.html

Results will be posted here:
http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/latestSksResults.html

I hope to work some of you in the sprint,

Randy _ KB4QQJ
SKCC# 3508T
SKCC 2xQRP# 01

# 1048. Re: Left Hand Bug Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-11-07 13:25:11 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1043  Message: 1048

Hi Guys n' Gals,
I found a really nice "Leftie". I had just ordered a left-hand Vibroplex 100th Anniversary Original when a friend emailed me a URL for a 1951 Vib Presentation. Made the deal and been practicing faithfully with the left hand ... "QLH" ? A picture of the bug is in the K4OSO photo album.
73,
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Left Hand Bug Wanted: I have Lightning Bugs, Originals, Blue Racers
> and SpeedX I'd be willing to trade, depending on what you have. Also
> will consider a direct buy.
>
> Please email me offline.
> Tnx es 73,
> Milt k4oso
>

# 1050. November RFTB- Sunday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-11-16 01:07:34 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1050  Message: 1050

Hello everyone!

Hard to believe that it's the 3rd Sunday in November already! Before you know it, Thanksgiving will be upon us. So we have something for you to be "pre-thankful" for. It's RFTB weekend!.

The Flying Pig's monthly "Run For the Bacon" QRP CW contest is this Sunday night! After a long day of raking leaves and cleaning gutters take some time for yourself to enjoy QRP and Amateur Radio.

This friendly, low pressure, 2 hour sprint runs from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

For all the details, please visit http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

The Flying Pigs QRP ARCI is now maintaining an archive of previous "pig-runs" for your viewing pleasure.

See you in the troughs!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1051. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-11-17 02:46:15 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1051

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!
This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for November, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200811.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and using a homebrew key or bug they made themselves. Note that you must have made it all by yourself from scratch. It can't have been made by someone else.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1052. Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-01 21:23:05 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1052

I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive them out.

Thanks / 73

Jack - N0NV

# 1053. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-01 22:46:49 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1052  Message: 1053

Hi, Jack -

???? While I have not done the operation that you are describing, here is one suggestion.? A very narrow punch is going to be hard to obtain, especially if it is to fit the holes in the key base.? A possible solution is to measure the diameter of the hole by testing it with a series of drill bits of known size.? Then obtain a "drill blank" in that size.? This is a piece of drill rod without anything done to it, and it can be used as a punch. As to removing the Vibroplex label, I will defer to those who know (and listen intently, because I need to know this as well.

??? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
?? http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com

-----Original Message-----
From: "Jack B."
Sent: Dec 1, 2008 4:23 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Rivets

I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive them out.

Thanks / 73

Jack - N0NV

# 1054. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-01 23:36:16 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1052  Message: 1054

Hello Jack,

Go to any hardware store and purchase a 1/16 inch pin punch. Take it home, and unassemble your bug - you might want to download the exploded diagram of the Original bug to do so. I reassemble the various layers of machine screws, insulation straps, washers, conducting straps, insulating feed through inserts, binding posts and so forth just as they were installed - but I use a small piece of a torn off card which I punch to show where the base went! This saves me time when reassembling the key. When the base is cleared of parts, you will have only three parts left - the base itself, the gold plated brass plate, the Vibroplex serial number tag which is held by two rivets. Turn the base over, place over two solid objects - two small lengths of 2x4 or two books will do nicely, and position the base bottom side up so that it is supported by the two books so that only the ends are supported leaving the center of the base unsupported.

Take a small tack hammer and the pin punch, position the punch over one of the rivets and tap gently. Repeat as needed until you move the rivet outward from the top. When you have about half of the rivet out, you can grasp the shaft with a chain nose pliers and gently twist both side to side and upward and the rivet will come out. Repeat for the other rivet.

There is a device that I've seen, but never used, nor do I own one, that is like the nail set (device for countersinking nails into wood) but the end is like a bored out like a hollow rounded half walnut shell. The device fits over the head of the rivet and does not cover it so that the device comes below the head of the rivet: In this way it is useful for tapping the rivet back into the hole and because it does not extend below the head of the rivet, it does not mar the base. I don't have one, so I use a tack hammer and then when I get near to fully inserting the rivet, I get a piece of cardboard which is notched and place it around the rivet, or more recently I use a flat chisel parallel to the base and hit it with the tack hammer until the rivet is fully inserted. I have been very successful with this method, except for the first time when I did not take all these precautions. My failure resulted in hitting the rivet with a nail set which wasn't hollowed out, the hammer hit the nail set as intended, but the nail set slipped and made a decorative indentation in the chrome plated base. This resulted in a fabulous memory of popular cuss words that I once heard a bo's'n sing when hitting his thumb with a heavy hammer. I thought I had forgotten the merry language of my merchant marine (navy) days, but I sung an equal song when I saw what I had done. I had the base re-chromed and profited from my error and cussing song.

You would be better advised to have the original gold plated plate replated professionally with a heavy 24k plate as the Vibroplex plating - as you have already noticed - leaves much to be desired. I had this done and the results were magnificent. If I remember correctly this consisted of stripping the metal to bare brass, copper plating, nickel plating then 24k gold. The Industrial gold plate (if I remember correctly) is the thickest gold plate - about 20 microns.

I hope this is helpful.

73

DR

David Ring, N1EA
-30-

On Mon, Dec 1, 2008 at 4:23 PM, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
> I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> them out.
>
> Thanks / 73
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1055. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-02 01:18:54 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1052  Message: 1055

I'd just like to add to what David has said. I have removed several of these pins. If you're lucky, it will cooperate with your pin punch as David described. But it bears mentioning that some of these pins are "rough" (lookes kinda like rebar), for lack of a better term, to provide extra bite so they stay put. If you get a stubborn one, your pin punch might not be hard enough to resist the pressure and will bend. Patience is important at this juncture. Don't do like I did.....added temper to the pin, with the result that it shattered like glass. Sometimes just changing the angle of attack slightly when knocking out the pin will do the job. I learned this lesson and am now using a MUCH shorter pin punch.

Good luck, and have fun.
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Hello Jack,
>
> Go to any hardware store and purchase a 1/16 inch pin punch. Take it
> home, and unassemble your bug - you might want to download the
> exploded diagram of the Original bug to do so. I reassemble the
> various layers of machine screws, insulation straps, washers,
> conducting straps, insulating feed through inserts, binding posts and
> so forth just as they were installed - but I use a small piece of a
> torn off card which I punch to show where the base went! This saves
> me time when reassembling the key. When the base is cleared of parts,
> you will have only three parts left - the base itself, the gold plated
> brass plate, the Vibroplex serial number tag which is held by two
> rivets. Turn the base over, place over two solid objects - two small
> lengths of 2x4 or two books will do nicely, and position the base
> bottom side up so that it is supported by the two books so that only
> the ends are supported leaving the center of the base unsupported.
>
> Take a small tack hammer and the pin punch, position the punch over
> one of the rivets and tap gently. Repeat as needed until you move the
> rivet outward from the top. When you have about half of the rivet
> out, you can grasp the shaft with a chain nose pliers and gently twist

> both side to side and upward and the rivet will come out. Repeat
for
> the other rivet.
>
> There is a device that I've seen, but never used, nor do I own one,
> that is like the nail set (device for countersinking nails into
wood)
> but the end is like a bored out like a hollow rounded half walnut
> shell. The device fits over the head of the rivet and does not
cover
> it so that the device comes below the head of the rivet: In this
way
> it is useful for tapping the rivet back into the hole and because it
> does not extend below the head of the rivet, it does not mar the
base.
> I don't have one, so I use a tack hammer and then when I get near
to
> fully inserting the rivet, I get a piece of cardboard which is
notched
> and place it around the rivet, or more recently I use a flat chisel
> parallel to the base and hit it with the tack hammer until the rivet
> is fully inserted. I have been very successful with this method,
> except for the first time when I did not take all these precautions.
> My failure resulted in hitting the rivet with a nail set which
wasn't
> hollowed out, the hammer hit the nail set as intended, but the nail
> set slipped and made a decorative indentation in the chrome plated
> base. This resulted in a fabulous memory of popular cuss words
that I
> once heard a bo's'n sing when hitting his thumb with a heavy hammer.
> I thought I had forgotten the merry language of my merchant marine
> (navy) days, but I sung an equal song when I saw what I had done. I
> had the base re-chromed and profited from my error and cussing song.
>
> You would be better advised to have the original gold plated plate
> replated professionally with a heavy 24k plate as the Vibroplex
> plating - as you have already noticed - leaves much to be desired.
I
> had this done and the results were magnificent. If I remember
> correctly this consisted of stripping the metal to bare brass,
copper
> plating, nickel plating then 24k gold. The Industrial gold plate
(if
> I remember correctly) is the thickest gold plate - about 20 microns.
>
> I hope this is helpful.
>
> 73
>
> DR

>
> David Ring, N1EA
> -30-
>
> On Mon, Dec 1, 2008 at 4:23 PM, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:
> >
> > I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> > Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace
the
> > rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> > punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from
the top
> > afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to
drive
> > them out.
> >
> > Thanks / 73
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1056. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-02 04:14:12 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1056

Thanks gentlemen,

I appreciate the details in what to do, and what not to do. First I'll have to buy the pin punch. I'll punch the pins only as far as I must, then pull from the top side (if I understand correctly).

Will I need to use an adhesive or glue to re-install the plate? Previously, Duco cement worked well when re-installing a rivetless / pinless serial number plate onto a painted base. I wonder if this or something similar is needed for the Presentation's gold-plated brass plate.

Thanks again,

Jack, N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> I'd just like to add to what David has said. I have removed several
> of these pins. If you're lucky, it will cooperate with your pin
> punch as David described. But it bears mentioning that some of these
> pins are "rough" (lookes kinda like rebar), for lack of a better
> term, to provide extra bite so they stay put. If you get a stubborn
> one, your pin punch might not be hard enough to resist the pressure
> and will bend. Patience is important at this juncture. Don't do
> like I did.....added temper to the pin, with the result that it
> shattered like glass. Sometimes just changing the angle of attack
> slightly when knocking out the pin will do the job. I learned this
> lesson and am now using a MUCH shorter pin punch.
>
> Good luck, and have fun.
> Milt k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@> wrote:
> >
> > Hello Jack,
> >
> > Go to any hardware store and purchase a 1/16 inch pin punch. Take
> it
> > home, and unassemble your bug - you might want to download the
> > exploded diagram of the Original bug to do so. I reassemble the
> > various layers of machine screws, insulation straps, washers,
> > conducting straps, insulating feed through inserts, binding posts
> and
> > so forth just as they were installed - but I use a small piece of a
> > torn off card which I punch to show where the base went! This saves

> > me time when reassembling the key. When the base is cleared of
> parts,
> > you will have only three parts left - the base itself, the gold
> plated
> > brass plate, the Vibroplex serial number tag which is held by two
> > rivets. Turn the base over, place over two solid objects - two
> small
> > lengths of 2x4 or two books will do nicely, and position the base
> > bottom side up so that it is supported by the two books so that only
> > the ends are supported leaving the center of the base unsupported.
> >
> > Take a small tack hammer and the pin punch, position the punch over
> > one of the rivets and tap gently. Repeat as needed until you move
> the
> > rivet outward from the top. When you have about half of the rivet
> > out, you can grasp the shaft with a chain nose pliers and gently
> twist
> > both side to side and upward and the rivet will come out. Repeat
> for
> > the other rivet.
> >
> > There is a device that I've seen, but never used, nor do I own one,
> > that is like the nail set (device for countersinking nails into
> wood)
> > but the end is like a bored out like a hollow rounded half walnut
> > shell. The device fits over the head of the rivet and does not
> cover
> > it so that the device comes below the head of the rivet: In this
> way
> > it is useful for tapping the rivet back into the hole and because it
> > does not extend below the head of the rivet, it does not mar the
> base.
> > I don't have one, so I use a tack hammer and then when I get near
> to
> > fully inserting the rivet, I get a piece of cardboard which is
> notched
> > and place it around the rivet, or more recently I use a flat chisel
> > parallel to the base and hit it with the tack hammer until the rivet
> > is fully inserted. I have been very successful with this method,
> > except for the first time when I did not take all these precautions.
> > My failure resulted in hitting the rivet with a nail set which
> wasn't
> > hollowed out, the hammer hit the nail set as intended, but the nail
> > set slipped and made a decorative indentation in the chrome plated
> > base. This resulted in a fabulous memory of popular cuss words
> that I
> > once heard a bo's'n sing when hitting his thumb with a heavy hammer.
> > I thought I had forgotten the merry language of my merchant marine
> > (navy) days, but I sung an equal song when I saw what I had done. I
> > had the base re-chromed and profited from my error and cussing song.

> >
> > You would be better advised to have the original gold plated plate
> > replated professionally with a heavy 24k plate as the Vibroplex
> > plating - as you have already noticed - leaves much to be desired.
> I
> > had this done and the results were magnificent. If I remember
> > correctly this consisted of stripping the metal to bare brass,
> copper
> > plating, nickel plating then 24k gold. The Industrial gold plate
> (if
> > I remember correctly) is the thickest gold plate - about 20 microns.
> >
> > I hope this is helpful.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > DR
> >
> > David Ring, N1EA
> > -30-
> >
> > On Mon, Dec 1, 2008 at 4:23 PM, Jack B. <nzeronv@> wrote:
> > >
> > > I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> > > Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace
> the
> > > rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> > > punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from
> the top
> > > afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to
> drive
> > > them out.
> > >
> > > Thanks / 73
> > >
> > > Jack - N0NV
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > ------------------------------------
> > >
> > > Yahoo! Groups Links
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> >
>

# 1057. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 16:19:10 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1052  Message: 1057

As I recall, all the Bug parts on top of the Gold Plated Brass Plate (GPBP) act like "nuts". Then the screws go into the Bug parts from the bottom of the base. That's what holds the GPBP down. I don't recall any glue being necessary.
73 Carl WZ4CW, SKCC 918, FISTS 13491

# 1058. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 17:15:06 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1052  Message: 1058
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 1059. Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 18:10:37 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1059  Message: 1059

Hi, Dave R. and all -

???? I would like to tap into your expertise regarding maritime history.? A group in Indianapolis is in the process of constructing a "period-authentic" reconstruction of the radio room of the USS Indianapolis.? This will be a working station that will be housed in the Indianapolis War Memorial building.?; I have been asked for recommendations (and donation or loan) of keys for the station.? My question is this:? were the J-36 bugs used in shipboard service?? I have one of these available, along with some Vibroplexes of the period, but I would like to know what bug would be historically appropriate.? I also have some XXX26003A straight keys from that period, as well as a J-37 and similar, with Navy markings.

??;?? As I understand it, the station will not attempt to exactly duplicate the USS Indianapolis setup physically, but it will be made entirely of authentic equipment that would likely have been in use on board such a ship.? So any advice along these lines would be welcome.

?;??? TNX es 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1060. Re: [cw_bugs] Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 19:31:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1059  Message: 1060
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1061. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 19:56:47 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1061

No Glue - understood!

First I'll have to flatten out the front lip of the plate (it was
caught and bent up a bit by a previous owner), then decide if it will
look good enough to re-use.

You'll be happy to know that Vibroplex switched back to using riveted
serial number plates when W4OA took over the operation in the 1990's.
http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug.html
I can verify this with new bugs that I've purchased in the last couple
years. Whether or not there's glue in addition to this, I don't know.

My new bugs also have convex shaped contacts for both dot and dash,
while my older bugs have flat contacts.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David Ring" <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Present day serial number Vibroplex aren't riveted, they're glued with
> Duco. That makes them much harder - if not impossible - to restore.
>
> Similarly, the "red decorative piece" that fits into the top of the yoke
> where the top trunnion screw usually goes (and still can go) is - in
the new
> models - glued with Duco cement rather than being a small red
plastic part
> with machined threads to fit the bore in the yoke as they used to be
from
> 1949 to about 1990 when this part was introduced due to WW2 models
having
> "operators misadjustment problems" caused by over tightening the top
> trunnion screw until the jewel cracked.
>
> DO NOT glue the baseplate - you'll never remove it again if you do.
>
> Also, send the plate out for replating - it will cost you more to strip,
> plate with copper, nickle and flash with heavy 24k gold than to buy
a new
> one from Vibroplex, but the looks and the quality will be
exceedingly better
> and it will last much much longer. In other words, the last time -
before
> gold went up in price - it would cost $60 to replate. It might be

$65 to
> $80 now with the increase in gold - but remember it's only a flash
of gold -
> get the HEAVY plate on it. Vibroplex does an inexpensive job in their
> effort to keep costs reasonable, but if you're restoring, you're
going to
> spend the money anyway, so why not do it right. The majority of the
cost in
> gold plate is the preparation work - you have to strip, polish, plate
> copper, plate nickel, then gold plate. So it is more than meets the
usual
> person's understanding and thus they think they're being over
charged, which
> they're usually not. But shop around, if you know a person who does
musical
> instruments, ask that person as that is the quality you want. I can't
> overstate the prudence that doing the job with a good plater rather than
> buying a replacement will make to your finished product in both
looks and in
> durability.
>
> 73
> DR
>
> David Ring, N1EA
> -30-
>
> On Wed, Dec 3, 2008 at 11:19 AM, <wz4cw@...> wrote:
>
> > As I recall, all the Bug parts on top of the Gold Plated Brass Plate
> > (GPBP) act like "nuts". Then the screws go into the Bug parts
from the
> > bottom of the base. That's what holds the GPBP down. I don't
recall any
> > glue being necessary.
> > 73 Carl WZ4CW, SKCC 918, FISTS 13491
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1062. Re: [cw_bugs] Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 20:12:11 UTC
From: wf2u@ws19ops.com
Topic: 1059  Message: 1062

David,

May I add a correction: the standard "flameproof" i.e. xxx26003A type keys were not signal light keys, except for the one variant which can be distinguished from the others by the engraved knob skirt: "Do not press for more than 2 minutes" (I don't have that key in front of me as I'm at work now, but this is the gist if I'm not quoting it correctly) and these keys have a very stiff and hard spring, so sending speed is forced to be very low.

The key used on ships is the xxx26012B type. It resembles the J-37 in shape but the base is closed and there is a receptacle on its left side, (viewing it from the front) which accommodates the standard wedge plug of the "bring your own" bugs.

The standard 26003A keys were used in Navy aircraft - I can post photos of aircraft radio operators' positions with the key showing, and also scans of various Navy aircraft radio equipment manuals call out for this key type.

Some Canadian bombers which were equipped with Bendix radio equipment which didn't use the standard military nomenclature, also used the "flameproof" key, which , in this system were issued and documented with a Bendix type number of MT-11B.

Here is a link to a radio operator/bombardier/navigator position photo from a WW2 Mosquito bomber's manual:
http://jproc.ca/ve3fab/mosradio.jpg - note the MT-11B key.

73 de Meir WF2U
Landrum, SC

Quoting David Ring <n1ea@...>:

> Richard,
>
> Here is my recommendation - get a WW2 Vibroplex Lightning Bug (or
> Original). It is unique as it has jeweled movement in the trunnion, but it
> has a painted (battle ship gray) base and red finger pieces. It looks very
> striking.
>
> Bugs were seldom provided to ships because they were not suitable for every
> operator - the Navy and others required a "Speed Key Certificate". Many
> operators bought their own keys - T.R. McElroy often visited ships with a
> trunk load of keys that he sold to the radiomen. He was an enterprising
> businessman.
>

> The red finger pieces would bring attention to the key!
>
> A XXX26003A key would NOT be correct as these were signal light keys - not
> issued to the radiomen. The J-37 would be more correct and there is a
> variation I think it's the J-45 that was used on ships - as I remember it
> had some sort of base. The armed forces preferred the permanent leaf spring
> rather than the coil spring because men's lives could depend on having that
> spring not get lost. Coil springs can go airborne which isn't good in time
> of emergency.
>
> If you want to stick with the more generic J-36 (which was the name given to
> ANY speed key), I'd go for the Bunnell J-36 as it is really elegant or the
> Vibroplex J-36, and I think
>
> W1TP has a file of a Lionel decal. You'll probably need one if you get a
> Lionel bug. Print it out and use "matte spray" from a photo shop or craft
> store to give a very hard durable surface on it that is dull. Well worth
> the price of the can of matte spray. You'll be amazed at how many uses it
> will have once you get it.
>
> W1TP has a picture of one key that I think is the same one that I've seen on
> WW2 USN ships - http://www.w1tp.com/8370.gif This configuration is called
> the J-44.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
>
>
> On Wed, Dec 3, 2008 at 1:10 PM, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
>> Hi, Dave R. and all -
>>
>> I would like to tap into your expertise regarding maritime history. A
>> group in Indianapolis is in the process of constructing a "period-authentic"
>> reconstruction of the radio room of the USS Indianapolis. This will be a
>> working station that will be housed in the Indianapolis War Memorial
>> building. I have been asked for recommendations (and donation or loan) of
>> keys for the station. My question is this: were the J-36 bugs used in
>> shipboard service? I have one of these available, along with some
>> Vibroplexes of the period, but I would like to know what bug would be
>> historically appropriate. I also have some XXX26003A straight keys from
>> that period, as well as a J-37 and similar, with Navy markings.
>>
>> As I understand it, the station will not attempt to exactly duplicate
>> the USS Indianapolis setup physically, but it will be made entirely of
>> authentic equipment that would likely have been in use on board such a
>> ship. So any advice along these lines would be welcome.
>>

```
>> TNX es 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
```

# 1063. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 21:28:31 UTC
From: Pete Haddad
Topic: 1052  Message: 1063

Hello All,

I was just emailing a friend of mine, Bill, W4HEX and he has a response to this topic. I am attaching it below. We are both bug nuts, along with Randy KB4QQJ, and Milt K4OSO and we try to be followers of WR Smith W4PAL the Key Restoration King..hi hi..but seem to come up with some help to one another on occassion.. anyway enjoyed the conversation and here are Bill's comments...

Pete -

You might add to the discussion that there is a source for replacement rivets if ever needed. I can machine these and currently have a few in stock. Mine will have to be plated as desired.

- Bill

I dont think Bill W4HEX is a member of the group so here is his email address ki4nov@... . yes this is correct it is his old call....hi..

73

Pete W5PEH

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace
the
> rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the
top
> afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to
drive
> them out.
>
> Thanks / 73
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1064. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 21:47:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1052  Message: 1064
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 1065. Re: [cw_bugs] Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-03 22:43:39 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1059  Message: 1065
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

# 1066. Re: [cw_bugs] Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-04 06:37:36 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1059  Message: 1066

David Ring wrote:
> <snip>I think W1TP has a file of a Lionel decal.
There's one in the files section of this group --
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/> -- the actual file is at
courtesy of DR himself.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1067. Re: [cw_bugs] Shipboard Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-04 06:40:24 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1059  Message: 1067

Earl Needham wrote:
> David Ring wrote:
>
>> <snip>I think W1TP has a file of a Lionel decal.
>>
> There's one in the files section of this group --
> <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/> -- the actual file is at
> courtesy of DR himself.
>

Oops, should have read "the actual file is at
<http://f1.grp.yahoofs.com/v1/4HE3SYVT7e5YnL0aqT2BH0ZWGSBvY3Ink7vLsgmdFexFtBvkA4rxZnF8CSPM
Ut0htQ_uHgoZmGfqwJ-nrnRHwg/New_Lionel_J36_label.gif>
and is courtesy of DR himself, back in November of 2006.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1068. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-07 23:29:51 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1068

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for December, 2008.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.usatek.net/~yoel/sprint200812.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the highest scorers from each division who are able to make the word 'CHRISTMAS' from the calls of stations they work. Note: you only need to work one station with a letter "S" to get your two "Ss".

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1069. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-08 18:29:17 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1069

I was able to borrow a pin punch, which worked very well indeed.
After inspecting the gold-plated plate, I decided to buy a new one
from Vibroplex because the original was too bent up at the front.
Also, I like to patronize the factory when it's practical to do so.

I'll have to make sure I have a punch that won't slip off the rivets
as I re-install things later. I want this to be a curse-free job.

When I'm done, this will be my best bug -- functionally and
cosmetically. A nice Christmas gift from me to me.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> them out.
>
> Thanks / 73
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1070. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-08 18:43:33 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 1052  Message: 1070

Best of luck Jack. Have a drink AFTER you've done it.
73 Ron g3xov

--- On Mon, 8/12/08, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:

From: Jack B. <nzeronv@yahoo.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Monday, 8 December, 2008, 6:29 PM

I was able to borrow a pin punch, which worked very well indeed.
After inspecting the gold-plated plate, I decided to buy a new one
from Vibroplex because the original was too bent up at the front.
Also, I like to patronize the factory when it's practical to do so.

I'll have to make sure I have a punch that won't slip off the rivets
as I re-install things later. I want this to be a curse-free job.

When I'm done, this will be my best bug -- functionally and
cosmetically. A nice Christmas gift from me to me.

73,

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@... > wrote:
>
>
> I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> them out.
>
> Thanks / 73
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1071. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-08 21:59:11 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1071

Rest assured, only the bug will be 'having a punch' and 'getting hammered' (.... ..)

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:
>
> Best of luck Jack. Have a drink AFTER you've done it.
> 73 Ron g3xov
>
>
> --- On Mon, 8/12/08, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
> From: Jack B. <nzeronv@...>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Monday, 8 December, 2008, 6:29 PM
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> I was able to borrow a pin punch, which worked very well indeed.
> After inspecting the gold-plated plate, I decided to buy a new one
> from Vibroplex because the original was too bent up at the front.
> Also, I like to patronize the factory when it's practical to do so.
>
> I'll have to make sure I have a punch that won't slip off the rivets
> as I re-install things later. I want this to be a curse-free job.
>
> When I'm done, this will be my best bug -- functionally and
> cosmetically. A nice Christmas gift from me to me.
>
> 73,
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@ > wrote:
> >
> >
> > I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> > Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> > rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of

> > punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> > afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> > them out.
> >
> > Thanks / 73
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
> >
>

# 1072. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-09 01:51:35 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1052  Message: 1072

Hi, Jack -

To protect against "slips", get a flat piece of metal or plexiglass plastic and drill a hole through it just the diameter of the rivet's head. Put the rivet through this and start it into the hole, then use the pin punch. The drilled hole will prevent the punch from slipping off. Then have the drink.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: "Jack B."
Sent: Dec 8, 2008 4:59 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Rest assured, only the bug will be 'having a punch' and 'getting hammered' (.... ..)

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Ron Johnson wrote:
>
> Best of luck Jack. Have a drink AFTER you've done it.
> 73 Ron g3xov
>
>
> --- On Mon, 8/12/08, Jack B. > wrote:
>
> From: Jack B. >
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Monday, 8 December, 2008, 6:29 PM
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> I was able to borrow a pin punch, which worked very well indeed.
> After inspecting the gold-plated plate, I decided to buy a new one
> from Vibroplex because the original was too bent up at the front.
> Also, I like to patronize the factory when it's practical to do so.
>
> I'll have to make sure I have a punch that won't slip off the rivets
> as I re-install things later. I want this to be a curse-free job.

>
> When I'm done, this will be my best bug -- functionally and
> cosmetically. A nice Christmas gift from me to me.
>
> 73,
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, "Jack B." wrote:
> >
> >
> > I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> > Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> > rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> > punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> > afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> > them out.
> >
> > Thanks / 73
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
> >
>

# 1073. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-09 15:14:07 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1073

I called Vibroplex and I was told they are in the process of changing the vendor who does their chrome and gold plating, so they can't provide a finished gold plate for the Presentation any time soon. No word as to the reason for changing platers, but I hope they find a good one.

Looks like I'll have to straighten out the old brass and use a local plater after all.

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> I was able to borrow a pin punch, which worked very well indeed.
> After inspecting the gold-plated plate, I decided to buy a new one
> from Vibroplex because the original was too bent up at the front.
> Also, I like to patronize the factory when it's practical to do so.
>
> I'll have to make sure I have a punch that won't slip off the rivets
> as I re-install things later. I want this to be a curse-free job.
>
> When I'm done, this will be my best bug -- functionally and
> cosmetically. A nice Christmas gift from me to me.
>
> 73,
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@> wrote:
> >
> >
> > I'd like to replace the gold-plated brass plate on a Vibroplex
> > Presentation bug. My question is, how difficult is it to replace the
> > rivets which hold down the ID plate? Is it simply a matter of
> > punching them out from the bottom, then hammering them in from the top
> > afterward? If that's the case, I'll need a very narrow punch to drive
> > them out.
> >
> > Thanks / 73
> >
> > Jack - N0NV
> >
>

# 1074. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-10 05:06:50 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1052  Message: 1074
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[ Attachment content not displayed ]

# 1075. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-12 05:42:08 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1052  Message: 1075

Jack B. wrote:
> I called Vibroplex and I was told they are in the process of changing
> the vendor who does their chrome and gold plating, so they can't
> provide a finished gold plate for the Presentation any time soon. No
> word as to the reason for changing platers, but I hope they find a
> good one.
>
I suspect they didn't get the results they wanted from the old plater. Remember, they had NUMEROUS "seconds" for poor plating, pitting, etc., during the past couple of years.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1076. Re: Vibroplex Rivets

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-12 07:27:49 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 1052  Message: 1076

Hello All on this Thread
In September I got a old '54 Blue Racer that was in really nice shape except the Paint was peeling off it it was not primed properly in the Factory. I wanted to refinish the base of that bug. The Rivets on the plate was my worst worry about doing that job. The Rivets punched out nicely with a little hand punch my Dad made out of an old Choke Cable from a wrecked car. I got the base nicely refinished in Tremclad Gray Hammertone and let it set a couple of days. The first part to put on the Bug when you are reassembling it is the label. I lined the label and started the pins with a Fine Needle nosed Pliers. I used the Plastic Handle of a medium sized screwdriver to gently drive in the rivets. They are easy to put in and do not need much force at all. I hope that helps.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 1077. Re: Vibroplex Rivets - Replacing the Presentation Plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-23 21:04:16 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1077

My new gold-plated brass plate has been plated with "electroless nickel plate, .0003 min thick, followed by bright hard gold plate, .000010 thick". I don't know how much better this is than the plating originally put on by Vibroplex, but it sure looks great! I re-inserted the rivet pins using the inverted screwdriver technique mentioned by Gerry.

There were some hardships regarding the plate, which I have posted on my web site:

http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/presentation_bug_227915_gpbp.pdf

Thanks for all the helpful advice from everyone.

73,

Jack - N0NV

# 1078. Re: Vibroplex Rivets - Replacing the Presentation Plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-23 23:27:45 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1052  Message: 1078

P.S. I think I'll have that drink now.
.... ..

-Jack-

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> My new gold-plated brass plate has been plated with "electroless
> nickel plate, .0003 min thick, followed by bright hard gold plate,
> .000010 thick". I don't know how much better this is than the plating
> originally put on by Vibroplex, but it sure looks great! I
> re-inserted the rivet pins using the inverted screwdriver technique
> mentioned by Gerry.
>
> There were some hardships regarding the plate, which I have posted on
> my web site:
>
> http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/presentation_bug_227915_gpbp.pdf
>
> Thanks for all the helpful advice from everyone.
>
> 73,
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1079. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets - Replacing the Presentation Plate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2008-12-23 23:34:35 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 1052  Message: 1079

Well done Jack. A shame it's not full size but it looks good.
Yes, go and get that drink and have a great Christmas.
Regards, Ron g3xov

--- On Tue, 23/12/08, Jack B. <nzeronv@...> wrote:

From: Jack B. <nzeronv@yahoo.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Rivets - Replacing the Presentation Plate
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 23 December, 2008, 11:27 PM

P.S. I think I'll have that drink now.
.... ..

-Jack-

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@... > wrote:
>
>
>
> My new gold-plated brass plate has been plated with "electroless
> nickel plate, .0003 min thick, followed by bright hard gold plate,
> .000010 thick". I don't know how much better this is than the plating
> originally put on by Vibroplex, but it sure looks great! I
> re-inserted the rivet pins using the inverted screwdriver technique
> mentioned by Gerry.
>
> There were some hardships regarding the plate, which I have posted on
> my web site:
>
> http://members. tcq.net/nzeronv/ presentation_ bug_227915_ gpbp.pdf
>
> Thanks for all the helpful advice from everyone.
>
> 73,
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1080. Reque3sting info about a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-01 14:26:05 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1080  Message: 1080
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I'm forwarding this from the cw_bugs-owner address -- please direct
any replies to the list, or else to Brian directly.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

-------- Original Message --------
Date: Sun, 28 Dec 2008 20:38:45 -0600
From: Brian Sherwood <lurch9@...>
To: <cw_bugs-owner@yahoogroups.com>

Requested info:

Brian Sherwood KA9EGW
Sharon, WI

Just dug out my old Vibroplex...it's got the flat bar like a Lightning bug,
a narrower base than standard, a very simplified damper, just a u-channel
and a wheel with a sloppy-loose axle. Trying to figure out what model it
is...wondering if it's a Zephyr?

73 de KA9EGW

# 1081. HNY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-01 16:38:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1081  Message: 1081

```
CQ CQ CQ DE KD5XB KD5XB KD5XB
HNY TO ALL ES HOPES FOR BEST IN 2009
7 3 ES DX

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
```

# 1082. Re: Reque3sting info about a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-01 20:58:32 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 1080  Message: 1082

```
Zypher has a 3" wide base. Picture at http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/gz.jpg
and http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/bz.jpg
```

# 1083. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday & Thursday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-19 04:16:25 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1083  Message: 1083

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday & Thursday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for January, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.usatek.net/~yoel/sprint200901.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making their all time best score and having the highest score in each division.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
==========
This coming Thursday evening will be the third edition of our special 160M sprint which is an annual event a day or two before the January CQWW 160M Contest similar to what the QRP ARCI does with the ARRL 160M Contest in December.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.usatek.net/~yoel/sprint200901_special.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a special sprint, for the month of January, that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate, even QRO!

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1084. J36 Main Arm Assembly Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-25 18:15:40 UTC
From: John / G0RDO
Topic: 1084  Message: 1084

Hello all.
I am looking to restore a J36 Bug, I need the main arm with its flat spring and flat pendulum, and wonder If anyone has bits they would sell? Please email me personally at: john(at sign) morsemad.com
P.S. I do not want to buy the Vibroplex parts! They are chrome plated and would not look right on a 1940's dull nickel plated bug.

73 John / G0RDO / morsemad.com

# 1085. Re: J36 Main Arm Assembly Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-25 18:56:26 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1084  Message: 1085

John,
If you buy the Vibroplex parts YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE BRIGHT CHROME!!..You can have a plating shop do it in nickel. I took my Blue Racer Deluxe to my local plating shop and had them strip and replate the base, mainframe and damper. Total charge....$30 dollars, US. Your pendulum should be much less. I am somewhat doubtful you will find someone sitting on a pendulum. If the pendulum is any good, the key is probably still in action. If the key is "far gone", you'll no doubt have to have the pendulum replated anyway. Of course, this is only my opinion/logic. Good luck, and hope to catch you on the air soon.
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "John / G0RDO" <g0rdo@...> wrote:
>
> Hello all.
> I am looking to restore a J36 Bug, I need the main arm with its flat
> spring and flat pendulum, and wonder If anyone has bits they
> would sell? Please email me personally at: john(at sign)
> morsemad.com
> P.S. I do not want to buy the Vibroplex parts! They are chrome plated
> and would not look right on a 1940's dull nickel plated bug.
>
>
> 73 John / G0RDO / morsemad.com
>

# 1086. Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-26 11:43:26 UTC
From: Bob
Topic: 1086  Message: 1086

Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.

So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.

1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.

2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I can tell.

It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks about each indivigual adjustment ??

Thanks

Bob

# 1087. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-26 14:04:22 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1086  Message: 1087

Hey Bob and the gang;

Yeah,.. there is something at the Vibroplex web site... some more stuff in qst (do a literature search at the ARRL website) and finally some bits a pieces recently in the archives herein if my memory serves me right. Plus I am sure some google searching would also be useful.

One important thing that is somewhat elusive, even in the printed material, is the description of how to set the "dwell" timing of the dash movement. Since your elements are best formed with primarily a wrist rocking movement and (much, much) less finger movement than when you manipulate a dual-lever iambic paddle, the last step in setting up a bug is to set both the spacing and tension of the dash travel. To get the right "dwell" so the dahs are naturally longer sounding (than the dits,) neccessarily means these dash settings will be different than for the dot movement. i.e. When you are rocking your wrist back and forth the same amount from right to left and left to right the dash contacts need to mate longer. We can achieve this by setting the travel of the arm when making a dash shorter and then putting the right amount of tension so your dash contacts "dwell" longer with the same amount of back and forth wrist movement.

At least that is my story and I am sticking to it !! (And....I hope that helps you out somewhat.)

Vy 73 OM de;

Bob
w9ya

On Mon, Jan 26, 2009 at 4:43 AM, Bob <rhphillips@...> wrote:

> Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I
> wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.
>
> So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.
>
> 1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.
>
> 2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I
> can tell.
>
> It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks
> about each indivigual adjustment ??
>
> Thanks
>
> Bob

```
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
```

# 1088. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-26 14:58:03 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1086  Message: 1088

Bob wrote:
> Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I
> wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.
>
> So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.
>
> 1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.
>
> 2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I
> can tell.
>
> It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks
> about each indivigual adjustment ??
>
> Thanks
>
> Bob
>

Actually, the norm is for the thumb to control dits since it is more agile than the side of your finger.

I'm assuming by "Vibroplex" you mean a bug, but you're not really specific about it. In any case, one explanation on adjusting a bug is here -- <http://www.telegraph-office.com/pages/bug_adjust.html>

You'll get more answers as time goes on. There is a lot of expertise in this group, but traffic is a little slow.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1089. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-26 17:08:48 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1086  Message: 1089

There is a file in our files section called Secrets of Bug Success.txt
Care, Adjustment and use of Semi-Automatic keys.

Also in the files section is Bug_Adjusting_Cleaning_Sending.txt
Vibroplex Adjustment, Cleaning and Sending Technique

http://f1.grp.yahoofs.com/v1/EOx9SXPBUabDZu69F7H9EPIf9mUdaUjDi08_ZBjaNj4Gs-XZR5-D3FVODE_reqW3Hw2J-8NpS_hLM5YiDlvWKLlT_o5txsM/Secrets%20of%20Bug%20Success.txt

I believe the Bug Adjusting, Cleaning, version is an incomplete older
version of the first file.

73

David Ring, N1EA

On Mon, Jan 26, 2009 at 6:43 AM, Bob <rhphillips@...> wrote:
> Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I
> wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.
>
> So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.
>
> 1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.
>
> 2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I
> can tell.
>
> It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks
> about each indivigual adjustment ??
>
> Thanks
>
> Bob
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1090. Plexiglass bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-26 19:37:06 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1086  Message: 1090

Getting back with some results on the plexiglass bug that I built. And by-the-way, thanks to all that emailed me with ideas. Very helpful.

The bottom line.....the thing is VERY temperature sensitive. The spacing of the dots varies greatly with a difference in room temperature. Well, it is plastic.....not real metal.....Grin!

So, looks like it is back to the drawing board.

I will say, that a plexiglass straight key or a plexiglass side-swiper (Cootie key) is easily a do-able project, but the plex bug has problems.

Thanks again for the helpful comments!

73....Walter - K5EST - Missouri

# 1091. Preserve & Encourage CW Activity in 2009!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-27 21:18:14 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1091  Message: 1091

New Years 2009 may have come and gone but its never too late to resolve to help preserve and encourage CW activity across our amateur bands. To celebrate the new year, come and join the NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club), a club for any and ALL CW enthusiasts around the world.

Our members include "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time. Our club runs monthly sprints and challenges. Plus we sponsor some additional special on-air activities during the year.

Membership is free and once you join you're automatically a lifetime member! So sign up today and help us keep CW alive and well.

Visit our web site at http://www.usatek.net/~yoel/. You'll find info on all of our various activities plus an online membership application.

We look forward to your support and hope to soon see your call added to our membership roster.

73,
Paul/KD2MX
NAQCC Membership Recruiter

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Larry, W2LJ - NAQCC Asst. Publicity Director
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer

# 1092. Green bug-Is it a Lightning bug or a Bunnell?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-29 13:14:11 UTC
From: qrpcwguy
Topic: 1092  Message: 1092

I have seen two bugs like this one. It is missing the name plate under the arm. The paint is textured green. I have posted it's photo and a Bunnell that looks like it under photos (N4HNO). Any ideas? The knurled nuts don't look original but most of it seems to be.

# 1093. Re:Green bug-Is it a Lightning bug or a Bunnell?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-29 14:50:03 UTC
From: John Snell / G0RDO
Topic: 1092  Message: 1093

Hello there. I would guess that the green base bug is a Lionel J36.
(Made during WW2 - basically a Vibroplex Lightning made under licence by the Lionel Co)

Cheerio from John Snell. / G0RDO
www.morsemad.com

# 1094. Re:Green bug-Is it a Lightning bug or a Bunnell?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-29 21:49:04 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 1092  Message: 1094

There is a picture of the Bunnell J-36 bug on the history page of J.H. Bunnell at: http://www.jhbunnell.com/bunnellcohistory.shtml

Notice the different damper.

When I was in the Air Force, way too many years ago, I knew one op that had a yellow standard. It was a high quality refinish job - not just a spray can quickie. The key had been a gift, but in the haze of the years I have forgotten why the yellow color.

That being said, could this green (doesn't look green in the picture) have been a refinish job?

Bill www.radiotelegraphy.net

# 1095. Re: Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-30 06:32:48 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1086  Message: 1095

Bob, here's a guide which I found to be helpful...

http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_adjustments.pdf

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bob" <rhphillips@...> wrote:
>
> Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I
> wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.
>
> So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.
>
> 1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.
>
> 2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I
> can tell.
>
> It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks
> about each indivigual adjustment ??
>
> Thanks
>
> Bob
>

# 1096. Re: [cw_bugs] Thanks Vibroplexer adjustment and Use.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-30 10:36:10 UTC
From: Bob
Topic: 1096  Message: 1096

Jack,

Thanks, that does explain a lot of things, I guess this was before
electronic keyers.

Bob

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jack B." <nzeronv@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2009 1:32 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplexer 218845 Adjustment and Use.

Bob, here's a guide which I found to be helpful...

http://www.vibroplex.com/original_bug_adjustments.pdf

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bob" <rhphillips@...> wrote:
>
> Getting back to getting on the air, so learning the code again, I
> wasn't very fast anyway, just get my general.
>
> So dusting of my bencher and Vibroplex and have a couple questions.
>
> 1. I assume the Thumb ( right hand ) is always used for dashes.
>
> 2. My Vibroplex is chrome and a little worn, but works ok as far as I
> can tell.
>
> It has a total of six adjustment, is their a detail sheet that talks
> about each indivigual adjustment ??
>
> Thanks
>
> Bob
>

# 1097. Re:Green bug-Is it a Lightning bug or a Bunnell?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-01-30 12:52:54 UTC
From: qrpcwguy
Topic: 1092  Message: 1097

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Bill" <w2blc@...> wrote:
>
> There is a picture of the Bunnell J-36 bug on the history page of J.H.
> Bunnell at: http://www.jhbunnell.com/bunnellcohistory.shtml
>
> Notice the different damper.
>
> When I was in the Air Force, way too many years ago, I knew one op that
> had a yellow standard. It was a high quality refinish job - not just a
> spray can quickie. The key had been a gift, but in the haze of the
> years I have forgotten why the yellow color.
>
> That being said, could this green (doesn't look green in the picture)
> have been a refinish job?
>
> Bill www.radiotelegraphy.net
>

I think it might be refinished. However, I saw one sell on ebay last week from a guy in New Zeeland that had the same blue-green color. On the bottom view of his bug the paint didn't cover everything and you could see crackle black with a stamped logo or number that looked military. I will try to post the image I grabbed from ebay to the N4HNO folder. The grayish Bunnell in that folder looks alot like mine, but I know many companies made them during the war. I thought I read somewhere that Vibroplex employees sometimes had custom colors.

# 1098. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-08 20:47:00 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1098

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for February, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200902.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: With apologies to FISTS for plagiarism, the one who has the highest total of NAQCC member numbers in his log for the sprint and has the highest score in each division. You may add a member's number each time you work him (max 3 times - once each on 20,40,80 meters).

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1099. Group,

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-14 21:30:51 UTC
From: Pete Theer
Topic: 1099  Message: 1099

Hi

# 1100. My meager key collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-14 21:33:33 UTC
From: Pete Theer
Topic: 1100  Message: 1100

Hi Group,

For those interested, I have posted photos of my meager collection of straight keys, paddles, bugs and keyers to my website.

http://www.k5prt.com/equipment.html

Now I just have to get on the air and use them!

Thanks and best 73,
Pete

Pete Theer K5PRT
Reply to: K5PRT@...
Please visit my website: http://www.k5prt.com
ARRL & AMSAT Life Member
10x# 13678, FISTS# 13919
SKCC# 4695, NAQCC# 3129
SWOT# 294, 3905 CC

# 1102. Hello to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-18 23:59:15 UTC
From: Dave
Topic: 1102  Message: 1102

My name is Dave and my call is KB3MOW. I'm located in north-central Pennsylvania, about 20 miles from the NY State border. I've been a ham for 41 years and still love the hobby!

I've posted a picture to the photo section titled "KB3MOW Keys". It shows the three keys currently on line in my shack. I'm not a collector, but use these all on a regular basis.

On the left is a 1960 Vibroplex bug. Obtained this in a trade for my old Brass Rcer when I decided to get back to a bug.

The middle bug is my Coffin Bug! I had one of these as a novice in 1967, and chose to revisit my CW roots! Got this one in trade for a spare antenna tuner I had laying around.

On the right is my favorite, even though it's not a bug. It's an old Navy Flameproof straight key that belonged to my Grandmother. She was a Western Union telegrapher in the southwest many years ago, and carried this key with her from station to station. She was a supervisor, and filled in for operators when they were sick or terminated.

Not one of these keys is a colectors item, but I wouldn't trade a single one of them for new ones!

Glad to be part of the group, and looking forward to following the threads here.

73
Dave
KB3MOW

# 1103. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-19 06:30:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1102  Message: 1103

What wonderful keys! You have a solid collection of Morse Music instruments
- keep making that beautiful sound.

What a treat to have your grandmother's key!

73
David Ring, N1EA

On Wed, Feb 18, 2009 at 6:59 PM, Dave <dcorio@...> wrote:

> My name is Dave and my call is KB3MOW. I'm located in north-central
> Pennsylvania, about 20 miles from the NY State border. I've been a
> ham for 41 years and still love the hobby!

# 1104. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-19 15:04:47 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1102  Message: 1104

Dave wrote:
> My name is Dave and my call is KB3MOW. I'm located in north-central
> Pennsylvania, about 20 miles from the NY State border. I've been a
> ham for 41 years and still love the hobby!
>
> I've posted a picture to the photo section titled "KB3MOW Keys". It
> shows the three keys currently on line in my shack. I'm not a
> collector, but use these all on a regular basis.
>
> On the left is a 1960 Vibroplex bug. Obtained this in a trade for my
> old Brass Rcer when I decided to get back to a bug.
>
> The middle bug is my Coffin Bug! I had one of these as a novice in
> 1967, and chose to revisit my CW roots! Got this one in trade for a
> spare antenna tuner I had laying around.
>
> On the right is my favorite, even though it's not a bug. It's an old
> Navy Flameproof straight key that belonged to my Grandmother. She was
> a Western Union telegrapher in the southwest many years ago, and
> carried this key with her from station to station. She was a
> supervisor, and filled in for operators when they were sick or
> terminated.
>
> Not one of these keys is a colectors item, but I wouldn't trade a
> single one of them for new ones!
>
> Glad to be part of the group, and looking forward to following the
> threads here.
>
> 73
> Dave
> KB3MOW
>
Great stuff, Dave -- glad you're here.

The list is a little slow, but there are many good people here with
lots of good info.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1105. Re: [cw_bugs] Hello to the group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-19 20:52:28 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1102  Message: 1105

Dave wrote:
> My name is Dave and my call is KB3MOW. I'm located in north-central
> Pennsylvania, about 20 miles from the NY State border. I've been a
> ham for 41 years and still love the hobby!
>
> I've posted a picture to the photo section titled "KB3MOW Keys". It
> shows the three keys currently on line in my shack. I'm not a
> collector, but use these all on a regular basis.
>
> On the left is a 1960 Vibroplex bug. Obtained this in a trade for my
> old Brass Rcer when I decided to get back to a bug.
>
> The middle bug is my Coffin Bug! I had one of these as a novice in
> 1967, and chose to revisit my CW roots! Got this one in trade for a
> spare antenna tuner I had laying around.
>
> On the right is my favorite, even though it's not a bug. It's an old
> Navy Flameproof straight key that belonged to my Grandmother. She was
> a Western Union telegrapher in the southwest many years ago, and
> carried this key with her from station to station. She was a
> supervisor, and filled in for operators when they were sick or
> terminated.
>
> Not one of these keys is a colectors item, but I wouldn't trade a
> single one of them for new ones!
>
> Glad to be part of the group, and looking forward to following the
> threads here.
>
> 73
> Dave
> KB3MOW
>
Great stuff, Dave -- glad you're here.

The list is a little slow, but there are many good people here with
lots of good info.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1106. A few videos of bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 01:28:35 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1106  Message: 1106

Hi, Group -

I took a little (?) time this past weekend and made some short video clips of some homebrew bugs in action. They are on YouTube - the easiest access is via http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/keyvideos . More will follow as time permits - I tend to do things in batches.

And a hearty welcome to our newest members.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1107. Re: A few videos of bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 03:13:29 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1106  Message: 1107

Wonderful work Rich!

Will you again have some of these keys on display at Dayton (the W1TP
booth if I remember correctly)?

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Group -
>
> I took a little (?) time this past weekend and made some short
> video clips of some homebrew bugs in action. They are on YouTube -
> the easiest access is via http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/keyvideos .
> More will follow as time permits - I tend to do things in batches.
>
> And a hearty welcome to our newest members.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 1108. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A few videos of bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 03:28:17 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1106  Message: 1108

Hi, Jack -

Thanks for the kind words. I will certainly be hanging around Tom's booth, but I don't know yet what keys I will bring. I will also have some on display at the "Show and Tell" night at the QRP ARCI event (after hours in the Holiday Inn in Fairborn - the other side of the city). A few more videos are in the works, but it may be a while - I am building some MicroBugs with new design features that are taking a lot of time.

vy 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: "Jack B."
Sent: Feb 19, 2009 10:13 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: A few videos of bugs

Wonderful work Rich!

Will you again have some of these keys on display at Dayton (the W1TP
booth if I remember correctly)?

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" wrote:
>
> Hi, Group -
>
> I took a little (?) time this past weekend and made some short
> video clips of some homebrew bugs in action. They are on YouTube -
> the easiest access is via http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/keyvideos .
> More will follow as time permits - I tend to do things in batches.
>
> And a hearty welcome to our newest members.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 1109. Any ideas about getting bug parts replated?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 16:05:25 UTC
From: qrpcwguy
Topic: 1109  Message: 1109

Anyone know of a place that would do this small a quantity of parts?

-John

# 1110. Re: [cw_bugs] Any ideas about getting bug parts replated?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 16:14:35 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1109  Message: 1110

qrpcwguy wrote:
> Anyone know of a place that would do this small a quantity of parts?
>
> -John
>
Most people wouldn't think of this, but there are places around the country that replate car parts. Something as small as, say, a pendulum for a bug, just might go into the tank along with a bigger part, and the cost might be nil.

Another thought -- go to a music store and ask who they get to replate brass mouthpieces. You can have silver plating, or gold over silver if you so desire. I've played trombone for over 40 years now, and that's probably the better option -- they're used to doing fine mirror finishes on small parts.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1111. Re: Any ideas about getting bug parts replated?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 17:01:26 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 1109  Message: 1111

John,

Look at these guys;
http://www.caswellplating.com/kits/plugnplate.htm

I've been wanting to try this for a long time;
looks easy and inexpensive.

Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "qrpcwguy" <qrpcwguy@...> wrote:
>
> Anyone know of a place that would do this small a quantity of parts?
>
> -John
>

# 1112. Re: Any ideas about getting bug parts replated?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 19:25:56 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1109  Message: 1112

Hi John,
Don't know where you are but, there's a chance you have a local plater. I've never had a pendulum plated. I did however, have a base, mainframe and damper assembly replated from an old model Blue Racer. I did so because the parts were peeling (I got a good deal on it). It cost me $30, mainly because that was his minimum. WR Smith in his book recommends against taking tiny parts (screws, etc.)to a plater. The kit for really small parts is probably a good idea. You could take the lever, base, mainframe, damper and, possibly the pendulum to a plater. You will be amazed at how bad your screws and small pieces like the circit closer and the dot spring etc look after the major pieces have bright new clothes:-). You are about to embark on a journey of many destinations...hi hi....good luck. Hope you take "before" pics so we can be suitably impressed when the whole job is done. By the way, what kind of bug is it?
73, Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "qrpcwguy" <qrpcwguy@...> wrote:
>
> Anyone know of a place that would do this small a quantity of parts?
>
> -John
>

# 1113. Re: [cw_bugs] A few videos of bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-20 21:50:23 UTC
From: Troy Wideman
Topic: 1106  Message: 1113

Rich,

Any plans to market your Parkwood DoubleBug? Sure would love to have that beauty on my operating table!

73,
Troy, W6HV

---
From: "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2009 5:28 PM
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] A few videos of bugs

Hi, Group -

I took a little (?) time this past weekend and made some short video clips of some homebrew bugs in action. They are on YouTube - the easiest access is via http://wb9lpu.googlepages.com/keyvideos . More will follow as time permits - I tend to do things in batches.

And a hearty welcome to our newest members.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1114. Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 01:11:13 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1114  Message: 1114

Call this shameless vanity and you'd probably be right.

A 'centerfold' version of my recently acquired 1962 Presentation Bug
(983 KB):

http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/presentation227915.jpg

I have to use it with my eyes shut lest I forget what I was trying to say.

Jack - N0NV

# 1115. Re: [cw_bugs] Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 01:15:45 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1114  Message: 1115

Jack B. wrote:
> Call this shameless vanity and you'd probably be right.
>
> A 'centerfold' version of my recently acquired 1962 Presentation Bug
> (983 KB):
>
> http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/presentation227915.jpg
>
> I have to use it with my eyes shut lest I forget what I was trying to say.
>
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
OMG! It looks like a sales brochure -- i.e. BRAND-NEW!

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1116. Re: Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 01:30:14 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1114  Message: 1116

Jack,
Shameless vanity is in order!!
What do you use to clean up the drool marks? That is absolutely beautiful. It must have been kept in a hermetically sealed box on Funk and Wagnalls back porch!:-) Hard to believe its a 1962. How does it play? I'd love to hear it.

73, Milt
k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> Call this shameless vanity and you'd probably be right.
>
> A 'centerfold' version of my recently acquired 1962 Presentation Bug
> (983 KB):
>
> http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/presentation227915.jpg
>
> I have to use it with my eyes shut lest I forget what I was trying to
say.
>
>
> Jack - N0NV
>

# 1117. Re: [cw_bugs] Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 05:20:27 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1114  Message: 1117

Hello Jack,

What a beautiful bug. I wonder if you have adjusted the La Hiff adjustable mainspring to pull the mainspring all the way out - you may find you do NOT need the Varispeed as you can really slow down the Presentation model.

73

David N1EA

# 1118. Re: Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 06:09:54 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1114  Message: 1118

I found it at the Amateur Radio Consignment Center in St. Paul, MN for $150.00. The brass sheet's gold plating was pitted, so I ordered a replacement from Vibroplex which looked good but was actually shorter in length than the original one. Dissatisfied with that, I took the old original brass sheet and had it re-plated locally for $125 (ouch!), but as you can see they did a fine job. While it was disassembled, I used chrome polish on all else plus DeoxIT on the contacts. The only new parts are the W8FYO Hills Speed-Changer (aka Vari-Speed) and the medium weight.

I played with the adjustable main spring shortly after buying the bug, but found it to be of little effect compared to the Vari-speed (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbRA3WwA2Ys), so I tightened it down fully inserted.

Thanks for the compliments!

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Jack,
> Shameless vanity is in order!!
> What do you use to clean up the drool marks? That is absolutely
> beautiful. It must have been kept in a hermetically sealed box on Funk
> and Wagnalls back porch!:-) Hard to believe its a 1962. How does it
> play? I'd love to hear it.
>
> 73, Milt
> k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@> wrote:
> >
> >
> > Call this shameless vanity and you'd probably be right.
> >
> > A 'centerfold' version of my recently acquired 1962 Presentation Bug
> > (983 KB):
> >
> > http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/presentation227915.jpg
> >
> > I have to use it with my eyes shut lest I forget what I was trying to
> say.
> >
> >
> > Jack - N0NV

> >
>

# 1119. Re: Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-21 12:51:03 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1114  Message: 1119

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Jack B." <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> Call this shameless vanity and you'd probably be right.
> A 'centerfold' version of my recently acquired 1962 Presentation Bug
> (983 KB):
> http://members.tcq.net/nzeronv/temp/presentation227915.jpg
> I have to use it with my eyes shut lest I forget what I was trying
to say.
> Jack - N0NV
>

WoW Jack, what a fine instrument of the code. I'd
have to wear white cotton gloves to even touch it
much less excite the dits and dahs from it.
Congrats!

73....Walter - K5EST - Missouri

# 1120. GHD 207A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 02:31:16 UTC
From: BPCI@aol.com
Topic: 1120  Message: 1120

Has anyone on the group used a GHD 207A? I might be interested in buying one at some point, but would like to hear someone else's experience with them...thanks, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
SKCC #22T

# 1121. Re: [cw_bugs] GHD 207A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 04:02:41 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1120  Message: 1121

The GHD 207A is probably the best mechanical semi-automatic key ever made.
It has a very quiet mechanism and a very nice feel.

73
DR

On Sun, Feb 22, 2009 at 9:31 PM, <BPCI@...> wrote:

> Has anyone on the group used a GHD 207A? I might be interested in
> buying one at some point, but would like to hear someone else's
> experience with them...thanks, Ci
>
>
> Ci Jones, WU7R
> SKCC #22T
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1122. Re: Presentation Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 04:48:41 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1114  Message: 1122

I replied to an off-post question and thought maybe it might benefit others...

Jack - N0NV

---

Hello -:

The Presentation Bug I found was in very good condition to begin with. Only the decorative brass sheet showed its age as the gold plating was pitted.

To make a long story short, I disassembled the bug in its entirety until I could remove the gold-plated brass sheet. A pin punch (purchased at Sears) was needed to remove the serial number tag. I found a local plating business who stripped and re-plated the gold onto the brass sheet. I cleaned up all the chrome parts with Mother's chrome polish, found at an automotive store. I cleaned the silver contacts with DeoxIT, available at Radio Shack. Everything else involved good old-fashioned elbow grease until it all shined.

Vibroplex still sells most (but not all) of the parts for the Presentation Bug, in case you need anything replaced.

Good Luck!

Jack - N0NV

--- On Sun, 2/22/09, <> wrote:
From: <>
Subject: Presentation Bug
To: NzeroNV@-----.---
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2009, 8:02 PM

Jack,

I am very impressed with your Presentation Bug. I have a 1959 presentation edition Vibroplex bug, but it is not anywhere near as good a shape as yours. May I ask what all you did to clean yours up and get it looking so great.

73 & TNX,

# 1123. Anyone using a Viz right angle or vertical bug?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 13:47:39 UTC
From: qrpcwguy
Topic: 1123  Message: 1123

I have seen the videos on youtube and they look really nice.

# 1124. Re: Any ideas about getting bug parts replated?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 15:09:31 UTC
From: qrpcwguy
Topic: 1109  Message: 1124

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Hi John,
> Don't know where you are but, there's a chance you have a local
> plater. I've never had a pendulum plated. I did however, have a base,
> mainframe and damper assembly replated from an old model Blue Racer. I
> did so because the parts were peeling (I got a good deal on it). It
> cost me $30, mainly because that was his minimum. WR Smith in his book
> recommends against taking tiny parts (screws, etc.)to a plater. The
> kit for really small parts is probably a good idea. You could take the
> lever, base, mainframe, damper and, possibly the pendulum to a plater.
> You will be amazed at how bad your screws and small pieces like the
> circit closer and the dot spring etc look after the major pieces have
> bright new clothes:-). You are about to embark on a journey of many
> destinations...hi hi....good luck. Hope you take "before" pics so we
> can be suitably impressed when the whole job is done. By the way, what
> kind of bug is it?
> 73, Milt
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "qrpcwguy" <qrpcwguy@> wrote:
> >
> > Anyone know of a place that would do this small a quantity of parts?
> >
> > -John
> >
>
I don't have anything really great, just a Lightning from WWII era. I
had just seen some old bugs that were restored (Smith's website) and
wondered about the possibility if I get something really nice. I keep
watching for old bugs on ebay like everyone else. 73's

# 1125. Free Membership! Free Certificate!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-23 22:06:39 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1125  Message: 1125

New Years 2009 may have come and gone but its never too late to resolve to help preserve and encourage CW activity across our amateur bands. To celebrate the new year, come and join the NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club), a club for any and ALL CW enthusiasts around the world.

Our members include "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time. Our club runs monthly sprints and challenges. Plus we sponsor some additional special on-air activities during the year.

Membership is FREE and once you join you're automatically a lifetime member! So sign up today and help us keep CW alive and well.

Visit our web site at http://www.usatek.net/~yoel/. You'll find info on all of our various activities plus an online membership application.

We look forward to your support and hope to soon see your call added to our membership roster.

73,
Paul/KD2MX
NAQCC Membership Recruiter

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Larry, W2LJ - NAQCC Asst. Publicity Director
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer

# 1126. Re: Anyone using a Viz right angle or vertical bug?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-24 12:39:00 UTC
From: Ci
Topic: 1123  Message: 1126

I have both of them, and I use them all of the time (one is at a station in our den, the other in my ham shack). The verticle is capable of sending slower, but the 90 degree model is more stable. I am a heavy fisted sender, so I really appreciate this latter quality. Actually, I prefer the verticle model though....73, Ci

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "qrpcwguy" <qrpcwguy@...> wrote:
>
> I have seen the videos on youtube and they look really nice.
>

# 1127. Skillman Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-25 01:04:48 UTC
From: Robert Miranda
Topic: 1127  Message: 1127

Well, I finally got a "real" bug. I had made one and played with it to learn how to adjust it; but, I never used it on the air. Too unreliable. My brother sent me a Skillman bug. I took it apart and cleaned it up. I was sort of amazed at how badly it was machined. The area that I expected to be the most precise was in the main bearings. It wasn't. 5 ball bearings supporting the points of the spindle. Well that wasn't too bad but the upper and lower races were just milled into threaded shaft and off center to boot. LOL you have to try to adjust the height of the pendulum to get a feel for how screwy that makes the system. Anyway, cleaned of dried grease, 1/4 inch layer of dried smoke and dust, it Works!!! Yay.
Now, I just have to hang that dang antenna.

# 1128. Re: Anyone using a Viz right angle or vertical bug?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-02-25 14:39:51 UTC
From: Bill
Topic: 1123  Message: 1128

I have the right angle. It is the best bug I have ever used. Light feel, quiet, and doesn't move at all.

I highly recommend it.

Be sure to visit http://www.radiotelegraphy.net

# 1129. Wanted: Vibroplex Collector's Guide

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-07 19:41:24 UTC
From: Pete Theer
Topic: 1129  Message: 1129

Hi gang,

I am looking for a copy of the "Vibroplex Collector's Guide" by Tom French. He's SOLD OUT on the website. I just picked up (sight unseen)a 1944 Original (S# 135,623) ($25!!) and things don't add up. Someone has changed the finger pieces (clear oval), but it has a black crackle base, red circuit closer knob and copper braid between the lever and frame (squared off frame, too, not rounded). At first I thought it was a WWII Deluxe Original, but they are said to have a "Battleship Gray" base. The name plate is standard Vibroplex style of the times (with patent #s) but does NOT appear to be brass (gray metal).

If anyone has a copy of the Vibroplex Collector's Guide they can do without, please contact me off-list at k5prt(at)arrl(dot)net.

Thanks,
Pete
K5PRT

# 1130. Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-08 17:45:49 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1130  Message: 1130
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The finest paddle ever made is The Chevron, by Kevin Gunstone, M0AGA. He continues to make them, one at a time to order by hand adn customized to your specification. He is a superb machinest as well as a fine CW op. The fit and finish of this key is beyond excellent. It can be adjusted for light-as-a-feather, or heavy as a hulk. It can feel soft or hard depending upon adjustment. it can be set so close one can not detect any movement, and it will stay through changing temperatures. I have adorned The Orphan, serial # 009, with cocobolo finger pieces and insert making it unque and in my opinion the nicest one on the planet.

Here is Kevin's website in the event you are not familiar with his work:
http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html

And here is The Orphan today...

# 1131. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-08 22:17:43 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1130  Message: 1131

Hmmm, when I was young I lusted after women and money and fast cars.
I guess I can say I'm older now and I have just discovered "Key Lust"
- perhaps something like "Key Largo" - or at least sung to the same
key. (Aww, I pun?)

73

DR

On Sun, Mar 8, 2009 at 1:45 PM, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
>
> The finest paddle ever made is The Chevron, by Kevin Gunstone, M0AGA.<snip>
> Here is Kevin's website in the event you are not familiar with his work:
http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html
>
> And here is The Orphan today...
>

# 1132. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-08 22:58:14 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1130  Message: 1132

Well .... o.k., I'll bite (since no one else has yet) ...; In your
estimation what makes this paddle the "finest ...ever made" ?

Bob
w9ya
(Owner of many different, yet all 'fine paddles'.)

On Sun, Mar 8, 2009 at 3:17 PM, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Hmmm, when I was young I lusted after women and money and fast cars.
> I guess I can say I'm older now and I have just discovered "Key Lust"
> - perhaps something like "Key Largo" - or at least sung to the same
> key. (Aww, I pun?)
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> On Sun, Mar 8, 2009 at 1:45 PM, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:
> >
> >
> > The finest paddle ever made is The Chevron, by Kevin Gunstone,
> M0AGA.<snip>
> > Here is Kevin's website in the event you are not familiar with his work:
> http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html
> >
> > And here is The Orphan today...
> >
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1133. Replacing Vibroplex contact method?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-15 11:03:58 UTC
From: n3wtus
Topic: 1133  Message: 1133

I ordered two new contact points and the contact screws from Vibroplex, even though Vibroplex recommends purchase of the entire assembly. I thought I would try purchasing only the contacts . The old contacts would snap right into the contact screw. Not so easy with the new contacts. Think a special type tool is needed.

Anyone have a method of attaching the new contact to the contact screw after the screw is inserted in the post? This is for the dot contact post.

By the way, I orderd a the two contacts, contact screws and another weight from Vibroplex via a FAX order and Vibroplex shipped immediately. Lots of parts are available with excellent service.

Tnx John N3WT

# 1134. Re: Replacing Vibroplex contact method?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-15 17:51:14 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1133  Message: 1134

John,
If I were in your situation, I would give Betsy a call and ask how they do it. I'm sure she'd be glad to share any tricks or techniques.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n3wtus" <n3wt@...> wrote:
>
>
> I ordered two new contact points and the contact screws from Vibroplex, even though Vibroplex recommends purchase of the entire assembly. I thought I would try purchasing only the contacts . The old contacts would snap right into the contact screw. Not so easy with the new contacts. Think a special type tool is needed.
>
> Anyone have a method of attaching the new contact to the contact screw after the screw is inserted in the post? This is for the dot contact post.
>
> By the way, I orderd a the two contacts, contact screws and another weight from Vibroplex via a FAX order and Vibroplex shipped immediately. Lots of parts are available with excellent service.
>
> Tnx John N3WT
>

# 1135. help me date this bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-15 23:04:37 UTC
From: jerome
Topic: 1135  Message: 1135

Hi... Please take a look at:

http://va7vv.ehpes.com/bug/jm.html where I've posted several photos of the bug in question.

Exactly the size of my Blue Racer, it has no nameplate and no markings. Paint seems original along with most of the hardware.

If you have any idea of who the manufacturer was, date, or anything else related to this bug, I would be most pleased to hear from you on or off list.

Thanks,
Jerome va7vv
Vancouver

# 1136. Re: help me date this bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-16 02:22:16 UTC
From: Don
Topic: 1135  Message: 1136

Jerome,

Take a look at this site.

http://chss.montclair.edu/~pererat/7318.jpg
http://chss.montclair.edu/~pererat/m8000.htm

It sure looks like the Speedex bug shown in the picture.
Tom says it did not have a label and the base was almose the size
of the Blue Racer.

73
Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "jerome" <romansky2002@...> wrote:
>
> Hi... Please take a look at:
>
> http://va7vv.ehpes.com/bug/jm.html where I've posted several photos of the bug in question.
>
> Exactly the size of my Blue Racer, it has no nameplate and no markings. Paint seems original along with most of the hardware.
>
> If you have any idea of who the manufacturer was, date, or anything else related to this bug, I would be most pleased to hear from you on or off list.
>
> Thanks,
> Jerome va7vv
> Vancouver
>

# 1137. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: help me date this bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-16 03:48:29 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 1135  Message: 1137

Hi Don... yep that's it all right (7318.jpg), for sure! Interesting -- the base is exactly 2.5" and is powder black; the housing for the pivot and vibrator has a slightly crackle finish.

It looks like Speed-x started under that name in 1934 and sold to Les Logan in 1937. I suspect from hours of reading on the net, that the narrow base, black, no label bug was probably made between 1934 and 1937.

Thanks for your help!
Best,
jerome - VA7VV

--- On Sun, 3/15/09, Don <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
From: Don <nn8b.oh@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: help me date this bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2009, 7:22 PM

Jerome,

Take a look at this site.

http://chss. montclair. edu/~pererat/ 7318.jpg
http://chss. montclair. edu/~pererat/ m8000.htm

It sure looks like the Speedex bug shown in the picture.
Tom says it did not have a label and the base was almose the size
of the Blue Racer.

73
Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, "jerome" <romansky2002@ ...> wrote:
>
> Hi... Please take a look at:
>
> http://va7vv. ehpes.com/ bug/jm.html where I've posted several photos of the bug in question.
>
> Exactly the size of my Blue Racer, it has no nameplate and no markings. Paint seems original along with most of the hardware.
>
> If you have any idea of who the manufacturer was, date, or anything else related to this bug, I would be most pleased to hear from you on or off list.
>
> Thanks,
> Jerome va7vv

```
> Vancouver
>
```

# 1138. Re: Replacing Vibroplex contact method?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-17 18:22:38 UTC
From: Jack B.
Topic: 1133  Message: 1138

Call Betsy on Fridays. It's the only day she works there since she retired last year (last I heard).

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> John,
> If I were in your situation, I would give Betsy a call and ask how they do it. I'm sure she'd be glad to share any tricks or techniques.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "n3wtus" <n3wt@> wrote:
> >
> >
> > I ordered two new contact points and the contact screws from Vibroplex, even though Vibroplex recommends purchase of the entire assembly. I thought I would try purchasing only the contacts . The old contacts would snap right into the contact screw. Not so easy with the new contacts. Think a special type tool is needed.
> >
> > Anyone have a method of attaching the new contact to the contact screw after the screw is inserted in the post? This is for the dot contact post.
> >
> > By the way, I orderd a the two contacts, contact screws and another weight from Vibroplex via a FAX order and Vibroplex shipped immediately. Lots of parts are available with excellent service.
> >
> > Tnx John N3WT
> >
>

# 1139. QRP Homebrewer Sprint this Sunday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-20 00:43:45 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1139  Message: 1139

Hello everyone!

After a hiatus, the NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint is on again! And this coming Sunday night, March 22nd is the night. So put down the soldering iron and get on the air and make some contacts with the equipment that you gave your sweat, blood and tears to build!

The original purpose of this Sprint was to encourage the use of homebrewed equipment (kits count!); but we're not overly picky and we welcome all entries, whether homebrewed or not.

As always, this event which is sponsored by the NJQRP Club is a 4 hour event from 8:00 PM to Midnight EDT. (0000 UTC until 0400 UTC Monday March 23rd for those of you who prefer UTC).

For all the details and the whole skinny - please visit the following Webpage:

http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html

Special certificates will be awarded; and they will be suitable for framing!

So grab your Tuna Tin, Sardine Sender, Gnat, Flea, Pixie, ATS (any version), KX1, K1, K2 or K3, Warbler (yes, PSK-31 counts too) or whatever have you and join in on the fun!

See you all Sunday night!

73 de NJQRP

# 1140. NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-03-21 16:33:47 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1140  Message: 1140

Final reminder!

The NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint is tomorrow night!

http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html

Special certificates will be awarded; for a preview of the rough draft - please go to:

http://w2lj.qrpradio.com/index%20page%2014.html

See you all Sunday night!

73 de NJQRP

# 1141. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-04-12 21:37:07 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1141

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for April, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200904.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the most QSO's with Canadian stations and having the highest score in each division.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1142. TEST POST

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-04-19 14:42:10 UTC
From: SailSouth4Fun@aol.com
Topic: 1142  Message: 1142

TEST POST...0741 MST 4/19/09
THANKS. GARY
**********A Good Credit Score is 700 or Above. See yours in just 2 easy steps!
(http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100126575x1220814852x1201410738/aol?redir=http:%2F%2Fwww.freecreditreport.com%2Fpm%2Fdefault.aspx%3Fsc%3D668072%26hmpgID%3D62%26bcd%3DAprilfooter419NO62)

# 1143. Search ALL Craigslist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-04-24 01:45:17 UTC
From: ravetrade@verizon.net
Topic: 1143  Message: 1143

Hi,
RaveTrade.com just created a " Search ALL Craigslist " program.

Now You Can :

1) " Search ALL Craigslist " and RaveTrade.com with One Click !

2) Super Search Kijiji & BackPage !

3) Upload a Dynamic Slideshow from Slide.Com !

RaveTrade.com is a 100% FREE PHOTO / VIDEO / MP3 CLASSIFIEDS.

We are a Useful Tool for the Collectors Community.

http://www.ravetrade.com Max. Exposure / Mainstream Classifieds.

# 1144. Re: [cw_bugs] Search ALL Craigslist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-04-24 04:32:16 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1143  Message: 1144

ravetrade@... wrote:
> Hi,
> RaveTrade.com just created a " Search ALL Craigslist " program.
>
> Now You Can :
>
> 1) " Search ALL Craigslist " and RaveTrade.com with One Click !
>
> 2) Super Search Kijiji & BackPage !
>
> 3) Upload a Dynamic Slideshow from Slide.Com !
>
> RaveTrade.com is a 100% FREE PHOTO / VIDEO / MP3 CLASSIFIEDS.
>
> We are a Useful Tool for the Collectors Community.
>
> http://www.ravetrade.com Max. Exposure / Mainstream Classifieds.
>
Oops, this one got past me. The offender has been banned.

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1145. New Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-04-30 14:57:17 UTC
From: Richard Zolla
Topic: 1145  Message: 1145

Time to visit the Begali website guys. Several new keys, as well as a new bug. Check it out!!!

Rick N6NKN

# 1146. DISTORTION PROOBLEM ON MY RIG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-05-11 20:38:42 UTC
From: SailSouth4Fun@aol.com
Topic: 1146  Message: 1146

Well folks. I have a bit of a problem and don't have a clue what may be going on. I have a Kenwood TS-440S that I have had for at least 10-15 years now. Up to 2 weeks ago everything was working fine. I work phone and CW with the radio. Here's the problem. When I work phone or CW on 20,15,10 meters the audio and CW tone is distorted. It sounds like RF is getting back into the rig but I have everything grounded as well as an extra ground wire from the mic plug to the radio ground to be sure I don't have a loose ground on the mic. Listening on another radio, the CW tone has a bit of a distorted kind of chirp. Hard to explain the sound. 50db/S9 it is loud. If you were to hear me at S4 you probably wouldn't notice it at all. The phone audio is unusable. I am using a Mosley CL-33 at 60 feet with a well grounded tower. This is the same set up that I have used for years. Kenwood antenna tuner as well as the internal tuner. I have changed configurations around and nothing changes the problem.

Here is where it gets stranger. I have a 40 meter inverted V at 40 feet that I also use on the same rig via antenna switch. When I work 40, phone or CW, NO distortion. Clean audio on phone and a nice clean tone on CW. Still through the same tuner and antenna switch. Again, same setup on the rig and antenna for 15 years.

I can get by with it on 20,15 and 10 CW but I would really like to be able to work phone there also as I have done since I was licensed in 1974. Only having 40 phone is getting a bit boring.

Anyone have any ideas what might have happened in the last couple of weeks to distort the upper bands? I would be very grateful for any ideas or any help anyone can offer. I am going to post this everywhere I think there may be a person that has a thought concerning this problem. Thank you in advance. 73,

Gary W. Froemming, CTC
Certified Travel Counselor
Glendale, Arizona, USA
WB7CAG / W7GWF
33.5601N / 112.1841W
Grid Square: DM33vn74vk
---
Glendale Amateur Radio Club # 1
FISTS # 11904, SKCC # 4360
NAQCC # 2694, 10-10 # 12753

W7GWF SKCC # 5494
FPQRP # 2035
QRP-ARCI # 13321
MQFD: Member
QRP-Canada: Member
AZ ScQRPions: Member
AK-QRP Group # 771
American QRP Club: Member
EchoLink Node# 294370
---

**********An Excellent Credit Score is 750. See Yours in Just 2 Easy
Steps!
(http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100126575x1222585010x1201462743/aol?redir=http://www.freecr
editreport.com/pm/default.aspx?sc=668072&hmpgID=62&bcd=May
Excfooter51109NO62)

# 1147. Re: DISTORTION PROOBLEM ON MY RIG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-05-11 20:44:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1146  Message: 1147

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, SailSouth4Fun@... wrote:
>
>
> Well folks. I have a bit of a problem and don't have a clue
> what may be going on. I have a Kenwood TS-440S that I
> have had for at least 10-15 years now. Up to 2 weeks ago
> everything was working fine. I work phone and CW with
> the radio. Here's the problem. When I work phone or CW
> on 20,15,10 meters the audio and CW tone is distorted. It
> sounds like RF is getting back into the rig but I have everything
> grounded as well as an extra ground wire from the mic plug
> to the radio ground to be sure I don't have a loose ground
> on the mic. Listening on another radio, the CW tone has a
> bit of a distorted kind of chirp. Hard to explain the sound.
> 50db/S9 it is loud. If you were to hear me at S4 you probably
> wouldn't notice it at all. The phone audio is unusable. I am
> using a Mosley CL-33 at 60 feet with a well grounded tower.
> This is the same set up that I have used for years. Kenwood
> antenna tuner as well as the internal tuner. I have changed
> configurations around and nothing changes the problem.

I would almost bet there is some bit of corrosion on one of the grounds, or perhaps on that beam. You might do pretty good by putting a ferrite bead (or several) on the coax -- I think nearer the beam is better, but a bead can hardly hurt anywhere you put it. When I have a similar problem on a mobile, a bead on the coax near the base of the antenna usually cures the problem.

7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 1148. RFTB Weekend

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-05-15 20:19:47 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1148  Message: 1148

Even though it is Dayton weekend, we are still having Run for the Bacon this Sunday night!

For all pertinent details, go to:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

See you Sunday night from 9 - 11 Eastern time. Maybe we'll hear some newly purchased Dayton goodies on the air for the first time!

73 es "oo"
de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1149. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-05-18 01:52:00 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1149

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for May, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200905.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and submitting a sprint report for the very first time. A further qualification is that you must have made at least 5 QSO's.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1150. Electro-Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-05-31 02:56:00 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1150  Message: 1150

Hello list!
Does anyone know of a circuit for a current supply to energize the electromagnet on the Electro-bug?

Thanks,
Harvey, W8DX

# 1151. Vibroplex switch assembly

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-01 12:57:40 UTC
From: TJRachwal
Topic: 1151  Message: 1151

Fellows,
I'm working on restoring a Vibroplex original and I see the earlier owner(s) removed the tuning bar assembly (both slider and latch). Vibroplex says they are no longer available. Would anyone have an "extra" set they would sell me? Condition is not that important. Thanks.
73,

Ted K8AQM

# 1152. Re: Vibroplex switch assembly

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-01 15:29:48 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1151  Message: 1152

Ted,
Do you mean the shorting switch?
I have a new one with a black knob.
Harvey, W8DX

# 1153. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-07 17:54:27 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1153

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for June, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200906.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and operating portable away from their own property (or at least 500 feet from your house if your property is very large).

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1154. RFTB Weekend

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-19 23:40:45 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1148  Message: 1154

Sunday is Father's Day and it's the first official weekend of Summer 2009! What better gift for a Dad who is into QRP than a Sprint to finish off the weekend?

For all pertinent details, go to:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

See you Sunday night from 9 - 11 Eastern time.

In advance, the FPQRP would like to wish ALL Dads, everywhere, a very, very Happy Father's Day.

73 es "oo"
de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1155. New-to-me bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-22 23:41:12 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1155  Message: 1155

The mail brought an incredible and unexpected gift today -- my Elmer's bug! My Elmer was WA5JKK, Don Sanders, of Kentwood, La, and he's been SK since the early '80's.

I never expected to get this thing, the ham who has had it all these years saw a post I made on another list about 6 months ago, contacted me, and just mailed it to me.

Take a look: <http://s3.photobucket.com/albums/y72/elsie1/JKK_bug/>

7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1156. Re: [cw_bugs] New-to-me bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-23 13:04:05 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1155  Message: 1156

Pretty soon you're going to be known as "Mr. Blue Racer" with the addition
of this fine example of pre-WW2 Vibroplex Blue Racer - fabulous key!

73
DR

David N1EA
-30-

On Mon, Jun 22, 2009 at 7:41 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:

>
> The mail brought an incredible and unexpected gift today -- my
> Elmer's bug! My Elmer was WA5JKK, Don Sanders, of Kentwood, La, and
> he's been SK since the early '80's.
>
> I never expected to get this thing, the ham who has had it all these
> years saw a post I made on another list about 6 months ago, contacted
> me, and just mailed it to me.
>
> Take a look: <http://s3.photobucket.com/albums/y72/elsie1/JKK_bug/>
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> --
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1157. new-to-me-BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-24 12:51:46 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1157  Message: 1157

.

This is neither a Blue Racer, a Vibroplex, nor pre-WW II.

That bug is the scarce Standard Radio bug made in 1943, a special order key for the U.S. Army Air Corps. They came in a variety of base finishes including Army green, deep maroon, nickel, black Japanned, and black crinkle. Most had split contact posts which made it possible to adjust with one hand while flying a plane, and also resisted loss of adjustment by the vibrating motor, but all known black crinkle base versions did not have the split posts.

the original order was for 1,500 keys. No one knows if they were all supplied, judging by their relative scarcity, perhaps not. About half of those known have labels and serial numbers. The serials are always between 1,500 and about 1,625. Since half of those known come from this small set, there is some statistical implication that not 1,500 were actually ever supplied.

Some of them clearly have parts from OLD Vibroplexes. This implies that Standard Radio was a subset of Vibroplex that was just supplying this key. There are no known advertisements for Standard Radio bugs. There is reason to think this company was formed to respond to this one order, and nothing else. The specimens with the old Vibroplex parts are always serialed between 1,500 and 1,530.

It is a great collectible, and a very fine key. You can see a maroon one on my website, < www.KT5X.com > I have the original cardboard box in which it was delivered to the military, with the order number, etc.

Your Elmer knew an excellent bug when he saw it. Congrats, Earl.

73 - Fred

# 1158. somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-25 06:42:59 UTC
From: jerome
Topic: 1158  Message: 1158

If I were not at my wits end, I would not sully this list with a non-bug question like this. Hopefully you will be kind as I am old and fragile.

Along with my bugs various, I have a VibroKeyer (single lever) grey crackle base with jeweled bearing. I bought it used in 1970 and it's been fine, but has certainly seen a lot of use over the years. I've always been able to adjust it with no problems.

It now has devloped a problem that I can't seem to fix. To wit: when sending a dash, it sends also a trailing dot. Not always but maybe 50% of the time. I can visually see what happens: upon completion of a dash, the lever arm snaps back and moves toward the dot contact post. It's very very fast but you can see it happen. If I put a piece of paper between the dot contacts you can see that it actually hits the paper for an instant.

I've had the lever arm off and re-installed it, and adjusted everthing again and again. It then works OK for a few minutes, only to fail once more as above.

The arm is always adjusted so there is freedom of movement but no vertical play.

What now to look for? Is it new pivot time?

Thanks for any ideas.
Jerome - VA7VV
Vancouver

# 1159. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-25 07:32:41 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 1158  Message: 1159

Hi Jerome,
I had that problem and solved it by adjusting
the dot return spring for more tension.
Any good?
Regards,Ron g3xov

--- On Thu, 25/6/09, jerome <romansky2002@...> wrote:

From: jerome <romansky2002@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Thursday, 25 June, 2009, 7:42 AM

If I were not at my wits end, I would not sully this list with a non-bug question like this. Hopefully you will be kind as I am old and fragile.

Along with my bugs various, I have a VibroKeyer (single lever) grey crackle base with jeweled bearing. I bought it used in 1970 and it's been fine, but has certainly seen a lot of use over the years. I've always been able to adjust it with no problems.

It now has devloped a problem that I can't seem to fix. To wit: when sending a dash, it sends also a trailing dot. Not always but maybe 50% of the time. I can visually see what happens: upon completion of a dash, the lever arm snaps back and moves toward the dot contact post. It's very very fast but you can see it happen. If I put a piece of paper between the dot contacts you can see that it actually hits the paper for an instant.

I've had the lever arm off and re-installed it, and adjusted everthing again and again. It then works OK for a few minutes, only to fail once more as above.

The arm is always adjusted so there is freedom of movement but no vertical play.

What now to look for? Is it new pivot time?

Thanks for any ideas.
Jerome - VA7VV
Vancouver

# 1160. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-25 22:46:58 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 1158  Message: 1160

--- On Thu, 6/25/09, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:

From: Ron Johnson <ron538@...>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 12:32 AM

Hi Jerome,  I had that problem and solved it by adjustingthe dot return spring for more tension.Any good?Regards,Ron g3xov

Ron... I increased the dot return spring tension until the trailing dots disappeared. That seems to solve the problem, albeit with increasing force necessary to engage the dot side compared with before. I can live with it though.

Thanks,
jerome - VA7VV

# 1161. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-25 23:16:53 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1158  Message: 1161

Jerome,

You say that your Vibrokeyer is a jeweled movement but has a painted base. I believe the VibroKeyer was introduced in 1960 and that it had a standard model (painted base) and a chrome base with the jeweled bearing.

I've seen the jeweled bearings crack because someone tightened the trunnion (top and bottom screws) too much.

The top trunnion screw on the deluxe models with the jeweled bearings was changed after World War IIs so that it was no longer adjustable and a red plastic decorative piece was placed in the top hole to cover up the drilled hole from which would have emerged the top trunnion screw..

The jeweled movement trunnion screw is still adjustable - but only from the bottom.

You will need a medium blade long handle - eight inches long should do - slotted screw driver. You must loosen the screw which binds the bottom trunnion screw from moving. This set screw is located on the bottom of the U shaped frame towards the back (away from the operator) of the U shaped frame. You'll have to put the screw driver in from the end of the key under the vibrator, but you'll see the screw at the base of the U shaped frame and you'll be able to loosen it.

When you've loosened it, you can back off the bottom trunnion screw located on the underside of the base. Just loosen it enough for the key lever to be removed. WATCH carefully to see if there is a silver braid attached to the key lever to the frame - you must disconnect this (from the frame end is best). This silver braid only exists on early models of the deluxe VibroKeyer and was "replaced" by the ground contact circuit being made by the dot spring - which often causes problems with grease (from hands) getting on the spring and making poor ground for the key lever. The jeweled bearings don't conduct. so all ground conduction is done via the dot spring or the early silver braid.

Once removed, you can clean out the bearings - if they are indeed the red ruby ones - check for cracks - if cracked you will need a new bearing, if they are just standard bearings, just clean them out - I juse a toothpick and a cotton swab.

73

David Ring, N1EA

On Thu, Jun 25, 2009 at 6:46 PM, romers romansky <romansky2002@...>wrote:

>
>
> --- On Thu, 6/25/09, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:
>
> From: Ron Johnson <ron538@...>
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 12:32 AM
>
>
>
> Hi Jerome, I had that problem and solved it by adjustingthe dot
> return spring for more tension.Any good?Regards,Ron g3xov
>
> Ron... I increased the dot return spring tension until the trailing dots
> disappeared. That seems to solve the problem, albeit with increasing force
> necessary to engage the dot side compared with before. I can live with it
> though.
>
> Thanks,
> jerome - VA7VV
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>

# 1162. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-26 00:12:55 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 1158  Message: 1162

Hi David and thanks for the instructive reply.

Well, it does have a painted base and no adjustable top trunnion screw; only a hole for the red plastic insert to cover the hole. The top bearing needs be tightened against the U frame from what I can see, and as you say is not adjustable. There is a silver braid between the arm and the bottom of the U frame. I knew about the screw in the bottom of the U frame from adjusting my bugs.

Too bad I didn't think to look at the bearings when I had the arm removed. The braid BTW, was long enough to slide the arm out of the way. Next chance I get I will remove the bottom bearing and see what I've got.

Are you suggesting that the jewelled bearings do not need to be cleaned? And I presume that even though it is not adjustable, the top bearing would be jewelled as well if the bottom was.

The serial number on this device is 258644 with the brass plate running in the same direction as the arm.

Finally, as Ron suggested below, adding more tension on the dot return spring seems to have solved the problem of the trailing dots.

Jerome

--- On Thu, 6/25/09, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:

From: David Ring <n1ea@...>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 4:16 PM

Jerome,

You say that your Vibrokeyer is a jeweled movement but has a painted base.  I believe the VibroKeyer was introduced in 1960 and that it had a standard model (painted base) and a chrome base with the jeweled bearing.
I've seen the jeweled bearings crack because someone tightened the trunnion (top and bottom screws) too much.
The top trunnion screw on the deluxe models with the jeweled bearings was changed after World War IIs so that it was no longer adjustable and a red plastic decorative piece was placed in the top hole to cover up the drilled hole from which would have emerged the top trunnion screw..
The jeweled movement trunnion screw is still adjustable - but only from the bottom.
You will need a medium blade long handle - eight inches long should do - slotted screw driver.  You must loosen the screw which binds the bottom trunnion screw from moving.  This set screw is located on the bottom of the U shaped frame towards the back (away from the operator) of the U shaped frame.  You'll have to put the screw driver in from the end of

the key under the vibrator, but you'll see the screw at the base of the U shaped frame and you'll be able to loosen it.
When you've loosened it, you can back off the bottom trunnion screw located on the underside of the base.  Just loosen it enough for the key lever to be removed.  WATCH carefully to see if there is a silver braid attached to the key lever to the frame - you must disconnect this (from the frame end is best).  This silver braid only exists on early models of the deluxe VibroKeyer and was "replaced" by the ground contact circuit being made by the dot spring - which often causes problems with grease (from hands) getting on the spring and making poor ground for the key lever.  The jeweled bearings don't conduct. so all ground conduction is done via the dot spring or the early silver braid.
Once removed, you can clean out the bearings - if they are indeed the red ruby ones - check for cracks - if cracked you will need a new bearing, if they are just standard bearings, just clean them out - I juse a toothpick and a cotton swab.
73
David Ring, N1EA

On Thu, Jun 25, 2009 at 6:46 PM, romers romansky <romansky2002@ yahoo.com> wrote:

--- On Thu, 6/25/09, Ron Johnson <ron538@btinternet. com> wrote:

From: Ron Johnson <ron538@btinternet. com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 12:32 AM

Hi Jerome,  I had that problem and solved it by adjustingthe dot return spring for more tension.Any good?Regards, Ron g3xov

Ron... I increased the dot return spring tension until the trailing dots disappeared. That seems to solve the problem, albeit with increasing force necessary to engage the dot side compared with before. I can live with it though.

Thanks,
jerome - VA7VV

# 1163. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-26 00:18:00 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1158  Message: 1163

Both the top and bottom bearings should have a red colored jewel in the cup and the elbow of the trunnion screw that runs through the lever should be rounded and not pointed as the regular bearings are.

The top adjustment was removed because "curious" fingers tightened the adjustment screw too much and cracked the jewel bearing.

The lever should have a minimum up/down movement and should move freely back and forth. You can clean the jewel cup with a toothpick and some cotton and maybe a bit of amonnia to degrease.

73
DR

On Thu, Jun 25, 2009 at 8:12 PM, romers romansky <romansky2002@...>wrote:

>
> Hi David and thanks for the instructive reply.
>
> Well, it does have a painted base and no adjustable top trunnion screw;
> only a hole for the red plastic insert to cover the hole. The top bearing
> needs be tightened against the U frame from what I can see, and as you say
> is not adjustable. There is a silver braid between the arm and the bottom of
> the U frame. I knew about the screw in the bottom of the U frame from
> adjusting my bugs.
>
> Too bad I didn't think to look at the bearings when I had the arm removed.
> The braid BTW, was long enough to slide the arm out of the way. Next chance
> I get I will remove the bottom bearing and see what I've got.
>
> Are you suggesting that the jewelled bearings do not need to be cleaned?
> And I presume that even though it is not adjustable, the top bearing would
> be jewelled as well if the bottom was.
>
> The serial number on this device is 258644 with the brass plate running in
> the same direction as the arm.
>
> Finally, as Ron suggested below, adding more tension on the dot return
> spring seems to have solved the problem of the trailing dots.
>
> Jerome
>
>
> --- On Thu, 6/25/09, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> From: David Ring <n1ea@...>

> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 4:16 PM
>
>
>
> Jerome,
>
> You say that your Vibrokeyer is a jeweled movement but has a painted base.
> I believe the VibroKeyer was introduced in 1960 and that it had a standard
> model (painted base) and a chrome base with the jeweled bearing.
> I've seen the jeweled bearings crack because someone tightened the trunnion
> (top and bottom screws) too much.
> The top trunnion screw on the deluxe models with the jeweled bearings was
> changed after World War IIs so that it was no longer adjustable and a red
> plastic decorative piece was placed in the top hole to cover up the drilled
> hole from which would have emerged the top trunnion screw..
> The jeweled movement trunnion screw is still adjustable - but only from the
> bottom.
> You will need a medium blade long handle - eight inches long should do -
> slotted screw driver. You must loosen the screw which binds the bottom
> trunnion screw from moving. This set screw is located on the bottom of the
> U shaped frame towards the back (away from the operator) of the U shaped
> frame. You'll have to put the screw driver in from the end of the key under
> the vibrator, but you'll see the screw at the base of the U shaped frame and
> you'll be able to loosen it.
> When you've loosened it, you can back off the bottom trunnion screw located
> on the underside of the base. Just loosen it enough for the key lever to be
> removed. WATCH carefully to see if there is a silver braid attached to the
> key lever to the frame - you must disconnect this (from the frame end is
> best). This silver braid only exists on early models of the deluxe
> VibroKeyer and was "replaced" by the ground contact circuit being made by
> the dot spring - which often causes problems with grease (from hands)
> getting on the spring and making poor ground for the key lever. The jeweled
> bearings don't conduct. so all ground conduction is done via the dot spring
> or the early silver braid.
> Once removed, you can clean out the bearings - if they are indeed the red
> ruby ones - check for cracks - if cracked you will need a new bearing, if
> they are just standard bearings, just clean them out - I juse a toothpick
> and a cotton swab.
> 73
> David Ring, N1EA
>
> On Thu, Jun 25, 2009 at 6:46 PM, romers romansky <romansky2002@ yahoo.com>
> wrote:
>
>
> --- On Thu, 6/25/09, Ron Johnson <ron538@btinternet. com> wrote:
>
> From: Ron Johnson <ron538@btinternet. com>

> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com
> Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009, 12:32 AM
>
>
>
> Hi Jerome, I had that problem and solved it by adjustingthe
> dot return spring for more tension.Any good?Regards, Ron g3xov
>
> Ron... I increased the dot return spring tension until the trailing dots
> disappeared. That seems to solve the problem, albeit with increasing force
> necessary to engage the dot side compared with before. I can live with it
> though.
>
> Thanks,
> jerome - VA7VV
>
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1164. Re: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-06-26 03:50:33 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1158  Message: 1164

I think this was just fine. Honestly I am often concerned that the list has NO traffic.

7 3
Earl
KD4XB
Sent on the Sprint® Now Network from my BlackBerry®

-----Original Message-----
From: "jerome" <romansky2002@yahoo.com>

Date: Thu, 25 Jun 2009 06:42:59
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] somewhat OT

If I were not at my wits end, I would not sully this list with a non-bug question like this. Hopefully you will be kind as I am old and fragile.

Along with my bugs various, I have a VibroKeyer (single lever) grey crackle base with jeweled bearing. I bought it used in 1970 and it's been fine, but has certainly seen a lot of use over the years. I've always been able to adjust it with no problems.

It now has devloped a problem that I can't seem to fix. To wit: when sending a dash, it sends also a trailing dot. Not always but maybe 50% of the time. I can visually see what happens: upon completion of a dash, the lever arm snaps back and moves toward the dot contact post. It's very very fast but you can see it happen. If I put a piece of paper between the dot contacts you can see that it actually hits the paper for an instant.

I've had the lever arm off and re-installed it, and adjusted everthing again and again. It then works OK for a few minutes, only to fail once more as above.

The arm is always adjusted so there is freedom of movement but no vertical play.

What now to look for? Is it new pivot time?

Thanks for any ideas.
Jerome - VA7VV
Vancouver

# 1165. Bugs on Ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-01 23:37:27 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1165  Message: 1165

Just a "heads up"
A person is selling early vibroplexes on Ebay for $1500 and up with "Buy it now." I had been looking for a double lever, and I contacted him about his - selling for $1500.00. There is one picture that shows the key - it has no weights visible, it's not possible to tell if the trunnion is the "cloverleaf" pattern, and there appears to be some kind of modification between the dash and dot levers tying them together! The dash knob is missing.
Here's how he responded about the key:
"Your guess is as good as mine. It's in my vault."
If you bid on one of his auctions - get out your magnifying glass - caveat emptor.
Harvey, W8DX

# 1166. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs on Ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-01 23:45:03 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1165  Message: 1166

That's Casper Coin - he bought a big bunch of Vibroplex keys about 10 years ago - I guess someone told him they were to become rare some day - he has been trying to unload them for more than he paid (overpaid) for them for the past 10 years.

Good biding - buy a GHD dual lever if you want a good dual lever bug.

73
David N1EA

On Wed, Jul 1, 2009 at 7:37 PM, w8dx<w8dx@arrl.net> wrote:
> Just a "heads up"
> A person is selling early vibroplexes on Ebay for $1500 and up
> with "Buy it now."  I had been looking for a double lever, and I
> contacted him about his - selling for $1500.00.  There is one
> picture that shows the key - it has no weights visible, it's not
> possible to tell if the trunnion is the "cloverleaf" pattern, and
> there appears to be some kind of modification between the dash and
> dot levers tying them together!  The dash knob is missing.
> Here's how he responded about the key:
> "Your guess is as good as mine.  It's in my vault."
> If you bid on one of his auctions - get out your magnifying
> glass - caveat emptor.
> Harvey, W8DX
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1167. Re: Bugs on Ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-01 23:48:59 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1165  Message: 1167

David,
Thank you. I thought it rather strange. I do have a GHD double lever, and I have a vibroplex as well. I keep that GHD in my vault
because it's too beautiful to use!
Harvey, W8DX

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> That's Casper Coin - he bought a big bunch of Vibroplex keys about 10
> years ago - I guess someone told him they were to become rare some day
> - he has been trying to unload them for more than he paid (overpaid)
> for them for the past 10 years.
>
> Good biding - buy a GHD dual lever if you want a good dual lever bug.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
> On Wed, Jul 1, 2009 at 7:37 PM, w8dx<w8dx@...> wrote:
> > Just a "heads up"
> > A person is selling early vibroplexes on Ebay for $1500 and up
> > with "Buy it now."  I had been looking for a double lever, and I
> > contacted him about his - selling for $1500.00.  There is one
> > picture that shows the key - it has no weights visible, it's not
> > possible to tell if the trunnion is the "cloverleaf" pattern, and
> > there appears to be some kind of modification between the dash and
> > dot levers tying them together!  The dash knob is missing.
> > Here's how he responded about the key:
> > "Your guess is as good as mine.  It's in my vault."
> > If you bid on one of his auctions - get out your magnifying
> > glass - caveat emptor.
> > Harvey, W8DX
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1168. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bugs on Ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-02 01:01:43 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1165  Message: 1168

No key should be kept in a vault. Take it out and use it.

Which do you like better? If it isn't the Vibroplex, now I'm sure
that the GHD should be taken from the vault immediately and the
Vibroplex sold!

73
DR

On Wed, Jul 1, 2009 at 7:48 PM, w8dx<w8dx@...> wrote:
> David,
> Thank you.  I thought it rather strange.  I do have a GHD double lever, and I have a
vibroplex as well.  I keep that GHD in my vault
> because it's too beautiful to use!
> Harvey, W8DX
>

# 1169. bugs on ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-02 19:48:50 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1169  Message: 1169

Can't say I know much about Casper Coin, only that I understand he is a museum curator. he is licensed radio op and also has quite a collection of boat anchors. for a little while, he bought all the semi-scarce keys at inflated prices, lost or didn't know enough to bid on the really rare ones.

In deciding to offer to sell them, he has steadfastly insisted on selling keys for much more than it can readily be bought form someone else, and he has generally tried to sell them in groups rather than individually. I don't know what he is thinking or if he is thinking. Maybe he is trying to maintain an apparent value for insuring them.

Who knows,

Fred - kt5x

# 1170. [Fwd: [Radiomarine] Digest Number 163]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-07 15:25:24 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1170  Message: 1170

Hi all -- here's an interesting radio event coming up soon. This happens every year, and while not amateur radio, it IS radio, and a :big deal" at that. This commemorates the end of commercial CW on the maritime bands in most of the Western world.

Vy 7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: [Radiomarine] Digest Number 163
Date: 7 Jul 2009 14:16:25 -0000
From: Radiomarine@yahoogroups.com
Reply-To: No Reply<notify-dg-Radiomarine@yahoogroups.com>
To: Radiomarine@yahoogroups.com

Radiomarine
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine;_ylc=X3oDMTJlMW1pcDM5BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDaGRyBHNsawNocGgEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQ-->

Messages In This Digest (1 Message)

1.
Night of Nights - Final Details <#1> From: Richard Dillman

View All Topics
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/messages;_ylc=X3oDMTJnYmt0aThyBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZG1zZwRzbGsDYXRwYwRzdGltZQMxMjQ2OTc2MTg1?xm=1&m=p&tidx=1>
| Create New Topic
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/post;_ylc=X3oDMTJncmJscTVzBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZG1zZwRzbGsDbnRwYwRzdGltZQMxMjQ2OTc2MTg1>

Message

1.

Night of Nights - Final Details
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/message/181;_ylc=X3oDMTJxbW9tcXAyBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRtc2dJZAMxODEEc2VjA2Rtc2cEc2xrA3Ztc2cEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQ-->

Posted by: "Richard Dillman" ddillman@...
<mailto:ddillman@...?Subject=%20Re%3ANight%20of%20Nights%20-%20Final%20Details>
w6awo <http://profiles.yahoo.com/w6awo>

Mon Jul 6, 2009 2:06 pm (PDT)

Here's the latest updated information for Night of Nights X. See also http://www.radiomarine.org <http://www.radiomarine.org> .

Date: 12 July 2009 Pacific time, 13 July gmt

Time: 5:01pm Pacific time, 0001 gmt

Station and frequency information (note changes where applicable):

---

KPH

KPH will transmit on 426, 500, 4247.0, 6477.5, 8642.0, 12808.5, 17016.8 and 22477.5kc.

KPH operators will listen for calls from ships on ITU Channel 3 in all bands. The Channel 3 frequencies are 4184.0, 6276.0, 8368.0, 12552.0, 16736.0 and 22280.5kc on HF and 500kc on MF.

Reception reports may be sent to:

Ms. DA Stoops
P.O. Box 381
Bolinas CA 94924-0381
USA

---

KFS (note change)

KFS will transmit on 12695.5 and 17026.0 - (12695.5 will be available only after local sunset Pacific time, 9:30pm, 0430 gmt)

KFS will listen for calls from ships on HF Channel 3 (see KPH listing for frequencies).

Reception reports may be sent to:

Ms. DA Stoops
P.O. Box 381
Bolinas CA 94924-0381
USA

---

KSM

KSM will transmit on 426, 500, 6474 and 12993kc.

(We don't have enough antennas to accommodate the other KSM frequencies when KPH and KFS are on the air)

KSM will listen for calls from ships on 500kc and HF Channel 3 (see KPH listing for frequencies).

Reception reports may be sent to:

Ms. DA Stoops
P.O. Box 381
Bolinas CA 94924-0381
USA

---

WLO

WLO advises they will be on the air but has not confirmed their frequencies. The frequencies below are the ones they used last year.

WLO will transmit on 438, 500, 2055.5, 4343.0, 8658.0, 12992.0 and 16968.5kc

WLO will listen for calls from ships on 500kc (not confirmed) and HF Channel 3 (see KPH listing for frequencies).

Reception reports may be sent to:

WLO Radio
7700 RINLA AVENUE
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36619
USA

---

KLB (note change)

KLB has advised that they will be on MF only. However their HF frequencies are included just in case.

KLB will transmit on 488, 500 (A1 & A2), 2063.0, 8582.5kc

KLB will listen for calls from ships on 500kc and 8368.0kc.

Reception reports may be sent to:

WLO Radio
7700 RINLA AVENUE
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36619
USA

---

US Coast Guard (note change).

Sadly, stations NMC, NMN and NOJ will be unable to participate in Night of Nights this year. Some of the Chiefs who were the driving force behind the return of these stations to CW have retired. Without them it's hard to to motivate station personnel. But... there's always next year!

---

K6KPH

Amateur station K6KPH will transmit and listen on 3550, 7050 and 14050kc for KPH, KFS and KSM reception reports.

Professional operators will be at the key and commercial procedures will be used. But please don't hesitate to call, no matter what your code speed or experience level may be.
K6KPH verification reports may be sent to:

Ms. DA Stoops
P.O. Box 381
Bolinas CA 94924-0381
USA

---

Remember, this is a public event. If you are in the area you are invited to join us at the RCA receive site, 17000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd in the Point Reyes National Seashore north of San Francisco. If using a computer mapping program add "Inverness" after the address above even though the station is well beyond that town.

Doors open at 3:00pm Pacific time. Snacks will be served. Tours of the transmitting station may be arranged for "true believers" by appointment only.

VY 73,

RD

==========
Richard Dillman, W6AWO
Chief Operator, Coast Station KSM
Maritime Radio Historical Society
http://www.radiomarine.org <http://www.radiomarine.org>
==========

Back to top <#toc>
Reply to sender
<mailto:ddillman@...?Subject=Re%3ANight%20of%20Nights%20-%20Final%20Details>
| Reply to group
<mailto:Radiomarine@yahoogroups.com?Subject=%20Re%3ANight%20of%20Nights%20-%20Final%20Details>
| Reply via web post
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/post;_ylc=X3oDMTJxY3E0MWVxBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdyc

ElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRtc2dJZAMxODEEc2VjA2Rtc2cEc2xrA3JwbHkEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQ--?act=reply&messageNum=181>

Messages in this topic
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/message/181;_ylc=X3oDMTM0OGNqNHMyBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRtc2dJZAMxODEEc2VjA2Rtc2cEc2xrA3Z0cGMEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQR0cGNJZAMxODE->
(1)

Recent Activity

*
12
New Members
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/members;_ylc=X3oDMTJnY3JzcHBnBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDdnRsBHNsawN2bWJycwRzdGltZQMxMjQ2OTc2MTg1>

Visit Your Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine;_ylc=X3oDMTJmbHJjbDlsBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDdnRsBHNsawN2Z2hwBHN0aW1lAzEyNDY5NzYxODU->

Sell Online

Start selling with
<http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=14h6j6fut/M=493064.12016255.12445662.8674578/D=groups/S=1705063697:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1246983387/L=/B=syMEKUPDhE8-/J=1246976187632061/K=fh25G8oV5gA0o5XvOifu0g/A=4025291/R=0/SIG=12bsapn24/*http://us.rd.yahoo.com/evt=44092/*http://smallbusiness.yahoo.com/merchant>

our award-winning

e-commerce tools.

Health Groups

for people over 40
<http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=14hlev47b/M=493064.12662708.12980600.8674578/D=groups/S=1705063697:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1246983387/L=/B=tCMEKUPDhE8-/J=1246976187632061/K=fh25G8oV5gA0o5XvOifu0g/A=5349273/R=0/SIG=11nhsqmjq/*http://advision.webevents.yahoo.com/EverydayWellness/>

Join people who are

staying in shape.

Yahoo! Groups

Auto Enthusiast Zone
<http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=14h7jk1le/M=493064.12717544.13455789.8674578/D=groups/S=1705063697:NC/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1246983387/L=/B=tiMEKUPDhE8-/J=1246976187632061/K=fh25G8oV5gA0o5XvOifu0g/A=5658247/R=0/SIG=11ptgj47g/*http://advision.webevents.yahoo.com/autoenthusiastzone/>

Passionate about cars?

Check out the Auto Enthusiast Zone.

Need to Reply?

Click one of the "Reply" links to respond to a specific message in the
Daily Digest.

Create New Topic
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/post;_ylc=X3oDMTJmMW9sbmUzBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdyc
ElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNudHBjBHN0aW1lAzEyNDY5NzYxODU->
| Visit Your Group on the Web
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine;_ylc=X3oDMTJkNHRpcGF2BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAz
ExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNocARzdGltZQMxMjQ2OTc2MTg1>

Messages
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/messages;_ylc=X3oDMTJmcDgzYWg0BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1B
GdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNtc2dzBHN0aW1lAzEyNDY5NzYxODU
->
| Photos
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/photos;_ylc=X3oDMTJmcm9mcnU3BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGd
ycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNwaG90BHN0aW1lAzEyNDY5NzYxODU->

The Radiomarine list brings you information about the on-the-air
activities of the Maritime Radio Historical Society including stations
KPH, KSM and K6KPH. For more information see our Web site at:

http://www.radiomarine.org

VY 73,

MRHS
MARKETPLACE
Mom Power: Discover the community of moms doing more for their families,
for the world and for each other
<http://us.ard.yahoo.com/SIG=14kmqg4ge/M=493064.12016295.13271503.10835568/D=groups/S=1705
063697:MKP1/Y=YAHOO/EXP=1246983387/L=/B=siMEKUPDhE8-/J=1246976187632061/K=fh25G8oV5gA0o5Xv
Oifu0g/A=5697381/R=0/SIG=11eaa5dke/*http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mompowergroup/>

Yahoo! Groups
<http://groups.yahoo.com/;_ylc=X3oDMTJlZHFnYzRlBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHN
wSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNnZnAEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQ-->

Change settings via the Web
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine/join;_ylc=X3oDMTJnYmhoYzE0BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdyc
ElkAzExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNzdG5ncwRzdGltZQMxMjQ2OTc2MTg1>
(Yahoo! ID required)
Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Individual
<mailto:Radiomarine-normal@yahoogroups.com?subject=Email%20Delivery:%20Indiviual%20Email>
| Switch format to Traditional
<mailto:Radiomarine-traditional@yahoogroups.com?subject=Change%20Delivery%20Format:%20Trad
itional>

Visit Your Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Radiomarine;_ylc=X3oDMTJlZjdmOGNnBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE1BGdycElkAz
ExMzA5NzE1BGdycHNwSWQDMTcwNTA2MzY5NwRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNocGYEc3RpbWUDMTI0Njk3NjE4NQ-->
| Yahoo! Groups Terms of Use <http://docs.yahoo.com/info/terms/> |

Unsubscribe
<mailto:Radiomarine-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com?subject=Unsubscribe>

# 1171. Three Generations running 14K ft peaks ...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-08 15:29:37 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1171  Message: 1171

Next week, we will be doing a Three Generational series of runs of Fourteeners, fourteen thousand foot peaks, and invite you to keep tabs on us, read about it, see photos, watch live video feed from the peaks, talk to us via amateur radio, or even join up with us for any of the runs!

We will be in the area of Buena Vista and Leadville, Colorado, from July 12 to July 18. We will announce on the URL our intentions for the days, and invite anyone to meet us at the trail heads, or meet us for dinner that evening, or check out the live video feed.

http://summitseeking.blogspot.com/

We will also transmit via amateur radio from high passes on some afternoons, QRP, using a K2, which will be announced.

With best wishes,

Fred Maas - Grandpa-Coach

amateur radio KT5X

"Cloud-Runner"

Founder of Wings, the Native American Cross-Country team

Dan Maas - son

amateur radio N5HFZ

sixteen time sub-four minute miler

Collegiate Academic All American of the Year for all sports, 1991

seven time collegiate national champion

member, nine U.S. National Teams

Adams State College Hall of Fame

Calvin Maas - grandson

age 14

ran first fourteener at age 13

# 1172. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-13 02:44:54 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1172

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for July, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200907.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and working stations from the most different USA call areas (max 12 incl. KL7 and KH6). It's the station location, not the call sign number that determines the call area - i.e. W7XXX in Florida counts as the 4th call area.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1173. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-19 22:55:28 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1173  Message: 1173

Tonight is RFTB! Thanks to KB9BVN for reminding me! Just got back from a week's vacation and the ol' brain is still on autopilot!

For all pertinent details, go to:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

See you Sunday night from 9 - 11 Eastern time.

See y'all at the trough!

73 es "oo"
de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1174. Test email

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-20 16:54:22 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1174  Message: 1174

```
test email
```

# 1175. Re: [cw_bugs] Test email

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-20 17:55:31 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1174  Message: 1175

It works! The list is just vewwy vewwy quiet -- everybody must be hunting rab -- rab -- rab -- Bugs!

7 3
Earl
KD5XB
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...>

Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2009 11:54:22
To: <brasspounders@yahoogroups.com>; <morsecode@...>; <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Test email

test email

# 1176. Re: Test email The Prodigal Son Returns!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-20 18:11:07 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1174  Message: 1176

Hi Earl,
About a year ago I sold my old McElroy P500.....and regretted it ever since. What a great sender. From time to time I would listen to a recording of me sending on the P500 which was sent to me by a former contact. What a great sender!
Well, a few weeks ago I got an email from the buddy I sold/traded it to. He was thinning out his flock and wanted to know if I was interested in getting the P500 back. WAS I !!??!! I told him I'd take it....even without knowing the price!!! Well, in the spirit of friendship, he went very easy on me, and now its in the Number One spot on my desk. I'll never make that mistake again, no matter how tempting the deal..... Sigh....Ain't the world great!!
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> It works! The list is just vewwy vewwy quiet -- everybody must be hunting rab -- rab -- rab -- Bugs!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...>
>
> Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2009 11:54:22
> To: <brasspounders@yahoogroups.com>; <morsecode@...>; <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Test email
>
>
> test email
>

# 1177. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test email The Prodigal Son Returns!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-20 18:26:35 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1174  Message: 1177

That's great, Milt. I think I mentioned my experience several weeks ago in which I received my Elmer's bug GRATIS just because I asked for a picture of it!

Dunno when I might try it on the air though, as th HF final in my 706 croaked a couple of days ago...

Earl
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "k4oso" <k4oso@aol.com>

Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2009 18:11:07
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Test email The Prodigal Son Returns!

Hi Earl,
About a year ago I sold my old McElroy P500.....and regretted it ever since. What a great sender. From time to time I would listen to a recording of me sending on the P500 which was sent to me by a former contact. What a great sender!
Well, a few weeks ago I got an email from the buddy I sold/traded it to. He was thinning out his flock and wanted to know if I was interested in getting the P500 back. WAS I !!??!! I told him I'd take it....even without knowing the price!!! Well, in the spirit of friendship, he went very easy on me, and now its in the Number One spot on my desk. I'll never make that mistake again, no matter how tempting the deal..... Sigh....Ain't the world great!!
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> It works! The list is just vewwy vewwy quiet -- everybody must be hunting rab -- rab -- rab -- Bugs!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...>

```
>
> Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2009 11:54:22
> To: <brasspounders@yahoogroups.com>; <morsecode@...>; <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Test email
>
>
> test email
>
```

# 1178. CW Atricle QST November 1965

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 01:26:53 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1174  Message: 1178

Would anyone happen to have a copy they would be willing to scan in and send to me of the QST November 1965, Pages 53-54, I am
interested in reading an article on cw I was just researching.

Bob AD5VJ

# 1179. Re: CW Atricle QST November 1965

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 04:06:08 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1174  Message: 1179

The article is available on the ARRL web site = QST archives.
I downloaded it as a PDF. If I cannot attach it to this message,
I'll try to upload it to the "Files" area.
Harvey, W8DX

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...> wrote:
>
> Would anyone happen to have a copy they would be willing to scan in and send to me of the QST November 1965, Pages 53-54, I am
> interested in reading an article on cw I was just researching.
>
> Bob AD5VJ
>

# 1180. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 04:07:43 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 422  Message: 1180

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /QST_Nov_1965_p53-54.pdf
Uploaded by : w8dx <w8dx@...>
Description : KH6IJ Treatise on CW

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/QST_Nov_1965_p53-54.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/general.htmlfiles

Regards,

w8dx <w8dx@...>

# 1181. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: CW Atricle QST November 1965

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 04:17:12 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1174  Message: 1181

Sir you are a gem.

Thanks very much Harvey

Bob AD5VJ ditdit

> -----Original Message-----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of w8dx
> Sent: Monday, July 20, 2009 11:06 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: CW Article QST November 1965
>
> The article is available on the ARRL web site = QST archives.
> I downloaded it as a PDF. If I cannot attach it to this
> message, I'll try to upload it to the "Files" area.
> Harvey, W8DX
>
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...> wrote:
> >
> > Would anyone happen to have a copy they would be willing to scan in
> > and send to me of the QST November 1965, Pages 53-54, I am
> interested in reading an article on cw I was just researching.
> >
> > Bob AD5VJ
> >
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 1182. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: CW Atricle QST November 1965

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 04:17:31 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1174  Message: 1182

DO NOT UPLOAD THIS.....

It wil be a copyright violation. Yahoo is NOT kind in such matters.

- Bob
w9ya

On Mon, Jul 20, 2009 at 10:06 PM, w8dx <w8dx@...> wrote:

> The article is available on the ARRL web site = QST archives.
> I downloaded it as a PDF. If I cannot attach it to this message,
> I'll try to upload it to the "Files" area.
> Harvey, W8DX
>
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@...> wrote:
> >
> > Would anyone happen to have a copy they would be willing to scan in and
> send to me of the QST November 1965, Pages 53-54, I am
> > interested in reading an article on cw I was just researching.
> >
> > Bob AD5VJ
> >
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1183. Re: CW Atricle QST November 1965

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-21 04:37:43 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1174  Message: 1183

You are absolutely, completely correct. I have deleted the file.
It can be downloaded for personal use from the ARRL web site.
Harvey, W8DX

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, w9ya <w9ya@...> wrote:
>
> DO NOT UPLOAD THIS.....
>
> It wil be a copyright violation. Yahoo is NOT kind in such matters.
>
> - Bob
> w9ya
>
>
> On Mon, Jul 20, 2009 at 10:06 PM, w8dx <w8dx@...> wrote:
>
> > The article is available on the ARRL web site = QST archives.
> > I downloaded it as a PDF. If I cannot attach it to this message,
> > I'll try to upload it to the "Files" area.
> > Harvey, W8DX
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "AD5VJ Bob" <rtnmi@> wrote:
> > >
> > > Would anyone happen to have a copy they would be willing to scan in and
> > send to me of the QST November 1965, Pages 53-54, I am
> > > interested in reading an article on cw I was just researching.
> > >
> > > Bob AD5VJ
> > >
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1184. Camel Back Straight Key Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-23 03:21:23 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1184  Message: 1184

I am looking for a 'camel back' straight key if anyone knows where one might be.

Bob AD5VJ

# 1185. RE: [cw_bugs] Camel Back Straight Key Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-07-23 03:23:26 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1184  Message: 1185

Is it redundant to say 'camel back' and 'straight key'??

Bob AD5VJ

> -----Original Message-----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of AD5VJ Bob
> Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2009 10:21 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Camel Back Straight Key Wanted
>
>
> I am looking for a 'camel back' straight key if anyone knows
> where one might be.
>
> Bob AD5VJ
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 1186. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-08-09 19:33:25 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1186

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for August, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200908.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and being the youngest or oldest participant. That's two drawings and two awards overall, one to the youngest and one to the oldest participant.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1187. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-08-16 18:44:38 UTC
From: Larry Makoski W2LJ
Topic: 1173  Message: 1187

Tonight is RFTB! Hot "Dog Days" of August, RFTB - hope your shack is air conditioned! And if there's no boomers, we expect to hear you on the air!

For all pertinent details, go to:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

See you Sunday night from 9 - 11 Eastern time.

See y'all at the trough!

73 es "oo"
de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1188. CW Xcvr for Island Activation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-08-30 13:26:14 UTC
From: AD5VJ Bob
Topic: 1188  Message: 1188

Our club is activating US Islands, and I am in need of a 'go radio'- something that can be taken out and work HF CW that can be
battery operated and is light weight enough for taking onto a canoe or kayak.
--
This does not have to be anything fancy but reliable would be good Hi
Would like to have at least 40 meters on it if possible, low power is ok too, since I am working CW. A built in keyer is not a
necessity, I can use a straight key and usually do since we look for the slow guys a lot when listening.
--
Bob AD5VJ
817-629-7357

# 1189. Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 16:52:35 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1189  Message: 1189

Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.

# 1190. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 16:59:26 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 1189  Message: 1190

My favourite bug  Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali
Intrepid so watch this space!!
Rgds.
Ron
g3xov  SKCC # 2880

--- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

From: ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM

Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more.. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.

# 1191. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 17:12:37 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1189  Message: 1191

Mine is definately my 1962 Blue Racer. I just love that bug!! I use it for ragchews and contesting. My 1932 Lightning Bug is also fun to use with well worn paddles.

73,
Jason N8XE

On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 12:59 PM, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:

>
>
> My favourite bug Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali
> Intrepid so watch this space!!
> Rgds.
> Ron
> g3xov SKCC # 2880
>
>
> --- On *Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>* wrote:
>
>
> From: ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM
>
> Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here,
> Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back
> to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the
> light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be
> second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's
> hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
>
>
>

# 1192. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 17:14:28 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 1189  Message: 1192

Mine is the 100th Annie !! Great to adjust and sends very smooth !!

73

George , N2JNZ

----- Original Message -----
From: Jason Hissong
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 1:12 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Mine is definately my 1962 Blue Racer. I just love that bug!! I use it for ragchews and contesting. My 1932 Lightning Bug is also fun to use with well worn paddles.

73,
Jason N8XE

On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 12:59 PM, Ron Johnson <ron538@...> wrote:

My favourite bug Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali Intrepid so watch this space!!
Rgds.
Ron
g3xov SKCC # 2880

--- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

From: ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM

Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73
KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 8.5.409 / Virus Database: 270.13.99/2372 - Release Date: 09/15/09 05:59:00

# 1193. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 17:23:43 UTC
From: n3wt@comcast.net
Topic: 1189  Message: 1193

My 1942 Lightning Bug.  Purchased all new contacts from the very nice lady at Vibroplex and now good as new.

It's great that we have a source of parts for the older Vibroplex bugs.

John  N3WT

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jason Hissong" <jhissong@gmail.com>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 1:12:37 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Mine is definately my 1962 Blue Racer.  I just love that bug!!  I use it for ragchews and contesting.  My 1932 Lightning Bug is also fun to use with well worn paddles.

73,
Jason N8XE

On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 12:59 PM, Ron Johnson < ron538@... > wrote:

My favourite bug  Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali
Intrepid so watch this space!!
Rgds.
Ron
g3xov  SKCC # 2880

--- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@yahoo.com > wrote:

From: ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@... >
Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM

Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.

# 1194. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 17:44:02 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1189  Message: 1194

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, n3wt@... wrote: Nice, I have the 100th annie also, it is very nice, i find that it likes to go slow a lot better than most, it gets used during most of the skcc events for that reason, and the one weight is easier to slide up or down as needed. I on;y have one lightning bug for now :-) 1976, i'm going this weekend hopefully to pick up a 1929 lightning bug with the japanned base. Keep us updated on that begalli Ron. 73' ..
>
>
>
> My 1942 Lightning Bug.Â Â  Purchased all new contacts from the very nice lady at Vibroplex and now good as new.Â
>
> It's great that we have a source of parts for the older Vibroplex bugs.Â
>
>
>
>
>
> JohnÂ  N3WT
>
>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Jason Hissong" <jhissong@...>
> To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 1:12:37 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
>
> Â
>
>
>
>
>
> Mine is definately my 1962 Blue Racer.Â  I just love that bug!!Â  I use it for ragchews and contesting.Â  My 1932 Lightning Bug is also fun to use with well worn paddles.
>
> 73,
> Jason N8XE
>
>
> On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 12:59 PM, Ron Johnson < ron538@... > wrote:
>
>

>
> Â
>
>
>
>
>
> My favourite bugÂ Â  Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali
> Intrepid so watch this space!!
> Rgds.
> Ron
> g3xovÂ  SKCC # 2880
>
>
> --- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@... > wrote:
>
>
>
> From: ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@... >
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM
>
>
>
> Â
>
> Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
>

# 1195. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 20:16:37 UTC
From: Michael Shelly
Topic: 1189  Message: 1195

I have a 1980's vintage Original and a 1950's vintage champion and hands down enjoy the 1950's vintage champion much better. Both of course are Vibroplex.
Mike
WB2KKI
FISTS
SKCC

---
From: ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 12:52:35 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1196. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 21:16:46 UTC
From: Ron Johnson
Topic: 1189  Message: 1196

Will do Eric. Should be here late next week.
73,Ron
g3xov

--- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

From: ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Favorite Bug
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 6:44 PM

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com, n3wt@... wrote: Nice, I have the 100th annie also, it is very nice, i find that it likes to go slow a lot better than most, it gets used during most of the skcc events for that reason, and the one weight is easier to slide up or down as needed. I on;y have one lightning bug for now :-) 1976, i'm going this weekend hopefully to pick up a 1929 lightning bug with the japanned base. Keep us updated on that begalli Ron.. 73' ..
>
>
>
> My 1942 Lightning Bug.Â Â  Purchased all new contacts from the very nice lady at Vibroplex and now good as new.Â
>
> It's great that we have a source of parts for the older Vibroplex bugs.Â
>
>
>
>
>
> JohnÂ  N3WT
>
>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Jason Hissong" <jhissong@.. .>
> To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com>
> Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 1:12:37 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
>
> Â
>
>
>
>
>

> Mine is definately my 1962 Blue Racer.Â  I just love that bug!!Â  I use it for ragchews and contesting.Â  My 1932 Lightning Bug is also fun to use with well worn paddles.
>
> 73,
> Jason N8XE
>
>
> On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 12:59 PM, Ron Johnson < ron538@... > wrote:
>
>
>
> Â
>
>
>
>
>
> My favourite bugÂ Â  Blue Racer 2K but I've just ordered a Begali
> Intrepid so watch this space!!
> Rgds.
> Ron
> g3xovÂ  SKCC # 2880
>
>
> --- On Tue, 15/9/09, ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@ ... > wrote:
>
>
>
> From: ke5pwleric < holmeseric19@ ... >
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com
> Date: Tuesday, 15 September, 2009, 5:52 PM
>
>
>
> Â
>
> Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
>

# 1197. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 21:55:59 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1189  Message: 1197

I have several "favorite" bugs. However, if I had to judge based on most frequent use, my McElroy P500 with gray base would win hands down. It seems to be my go-to bug. Its great at all speeds and I don't have to be concerned about its large mass moving around on the desk.
73, Milt
k4oso

# 1198. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-15 22:14:53 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1189  Message: 1198

I have never used a McElroy yet. The closest thing i have would be my T.A.C. Hole in the wall Bug. It's pretty smooth, but the previous owner filed the mainspring, so it gets SLLLOOOOWWW. Painfully slow :-)I saw a pic of the p500 on a web page, the owner said is was a massive key.--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> I have several "favorite" bugs. However, if I had to judge based on most frequent use, my McElroy P500 with gray base would win hands down. It seems to be my go-to bug. Its great at all speeds and I don't have to be concerned about its large mass moving around on the desk.
> 73, Milt
> k4oso
>

# 1199. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 00:58:34 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1189  Message: 1199

My favorite is an Original Standard that I got off of eBay. It was used on the Northwest Pacific Railroad and was stored in a garage somewhere in Washington state. When I got it, it was an absolute mess! I took it totally apart; and did the best refurb job that I was able. It came out really well; and now it has a permanent presence on my operating desk. A lot easier on my hands than a straight key; but still has more of a traditional feel than a keyer and paddles.

73 de Larry W2LJ

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://w2lj.blogspot.com/
http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com/

# 1200. Re: [cw_bugs] Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 01:00:36 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1189  Message: 1200

I only have one Bug, so I have no comparison. It is a chrome Vibroplex Original, apparently from 1972 according to the serial number, which I found at a swap meet. I am very new to CW, so it has more weights on it than fit. In addition to the regular weights, I have a weight that a friend of mine made, which fits onto the end of the pendulum & thus has a great effect on the speed.

I have not used it on the air yet; not until I can very reliable get out the right number of dits. It is a pleasure to practice with, though.

I've borrowed that same friend's Vibroplex Champion to play with as well. It is nice, but not as slow & of course, the round custom weight will not fit on it.

Kate Hutton KD6HTN

On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 9:52 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

> Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex
> originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when
> i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of
> it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels
> almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73
> KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
>
>

# 1201. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 03:40:48 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1189  Message: 1201

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Kate Hutton <katehutton@...> wrote:
> Well Kate, I promise. After you get the swing of that bug, it won't stay lonely long :-)
I got my first bug, a 1976 original last year for my birthday. By the time i had my birthday this year i had 5 on the table, and added one more that day hi hi. Now i own 8 diffrent bugs. yeah they get addicting :-) and they all have their own feel and purpose. good thread people, keep it going. What would be your dream Bug? Mine would be a 1920's original with japanned base and 100% of the pinstriping still showing.
> I only have one Bug, so I have no comparison. It is a chrome Vibroplex
> Original, apparently from 1972 according to the serial number, which I found
> at a swap meet. I am very new to CW, so it has more weights on it than
> fit. In addition to the regular weights, I have a weight that a friend of
> mine made, which fits onto the end of the pendulum & thus has a great effect
> on the speed.
>
> I have not used it on the air yet; not until I can very reliable get out the
> right number of dits. It is a pleasure to practice with, though.
>
> I've borrowed that same friend's Vibroplex Champion to play with as well.
> It is nice, but not as slow & of course, the round custom weight will not
> fit on it.
>
> Kate Hutton KD6HTN
>
> On Tue, Sep 15, 2009 at 9:52 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:
>
> > Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex
> > originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when
> > i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of
> > it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels
> > almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73
> > KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
> >
> >
>

# 1202. Re favorite bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 10:47:58 UTC
From: Ted Rachwal
Topic: 1202  Message: 1202
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Geez, I am stand-alone, my favorite bug is my J-36. Maybe it's part wondering what this 1942 j-36 did in the war but it does feel nice. My "Anne" and Speed-X are also nice.

Ted K8AQM

# 1203. Re: Re favorite bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 18:05:50 UTC
From: jerrysteck
Topic: 1202  Message: 1203

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Ted Rachwal <tjrachwal@...> wrote:
>>>>

> Geez, I am stand-alone, my favorite bug is my J-36. Maybe it's part
> wondering what this 1942 j-36 did in the war >>>>
>
```

my Lightning Bug, circa 1960s, is smooth and easy to operate--i've become so accustomed to it that i seldom use anything else except the sig corp J-38 that i learned on in 1956--two sorta oldies but definitely goodies--

73

jerry--------k5psh
```

# 1204. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 18:42:09 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 1189  Message: 1204

My 1945 Champion.
I seem to make fewer mistakes when I use this bug.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbRA3WwA2Ys

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...> wrote:
>
> Let's Hear your Fav. Bug to use on air. I have a few bugs here, Vibroplex originals, and lightning bugs. My Favorite, and i always Go back to it when i need to send traffic in a net. My Blue Racer y2k. I love the light feel of it, and it sends effortlessly. Then the 38' Junior would be second, it feels almost like the racer anyway. That's my two cents, let's hear some more. 73 KE5PWL SKCC 4229T, LOUISIANA CW NET NCS.
>

# 1205. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-16 22:01:29 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1205

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for September, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200909.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and using a homebrew key or bug they made themselves. Note that you must have made it all by yourself from scratch. It can't have been made by someone else.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1206. Need Clapp Eastman Parts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 01:15:33 UTC
From: Gary Harmon
Topic: 1206  Message: 1206

I picked up an incomplete spark key on a marble base yesterday. Need the following parts to make it complete:

U-shaped tension spring (mine is in two pieces)
Wire connector thumb screw
Spring
Threaded thumb screw and nut for spring
1 7/8 x 10-32 screw

Any sources for these kinds of pieces or other suggestions?

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK
6003 Archwood
San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
210.657.1549h
210.884.6926c

# 1207. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 02:24:10 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1189  Message: 1207

I got my first bug in 1955 - a Vibroplex Champion. Hands down, my favorite is the GHD dual lever, with photocell contacts. Dot and Dash never touch metal, and it is very smooth, and beautiful. I have tried to put a photo in the "photos" area. The arm can be clamped and the bug will work as an iambic keyer. It is mirror-finish chrome with sky blue finger pieces.
Harvey, W8DX

# 1208. Re: [cw_bugs] Need Clapp Eastman Parts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 02:32:15 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1206  Message: 1208

Boy I'd like to see some pictures! Any chance?

Earl
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "Gary Harmon" <gharmon@...>

Date: Wed, 16 Sep 2009 20:15:33
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Need Clapp Eastman Parts

I picked up an incomplete spark key on a marble base yesterday. Need the following parts to make it complete:

U-shaped tension spring (mine is in two pieces)
Wire connector thumb screw
Spring
Threaded thumb screw and nut for spring
1 7/8 x 10-32 screw

Any sources for these kinds of pieces or other suggestions?

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK
6003 Archwood
San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
210.657.1549h
210.884.6926c

# 1209. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 03:21:36 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1189  Message: 1209

I would like to post a picture of the GHD bug, but no matter what I do, the photos department won't accept it. There is a photo on my web site: www.outadaloop.com, under videos.
http://www.outadaloop.com/loopvideo.htm
(I hope the group doesn't kill the link)
If you email me at w8dx@... (Not via the group)
I will attach the photo.

Harvey, W8DX

# 1210. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 03:32:18 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1189  Message: 1210

Correction to URL:
http://www.outadaloop.com/Loopvideo.htm
Since w8dx at arrl.net is a one-way email address,
the group won't accept emails from me until I figure
it out -
Harvey, W8DX

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "w8dx" <w8dx@...> wrote:
>
> I would like to post a picture of the GHD bug, but no matter what I do, the photos department won't accept it. There is a photo on my web site: www.outadaloop.com, under videos.
> http://www.outadaloop.com/loopvideo.htm
> (I hope the group doesn't kill the link)
> If you email me at w8dx@... (Not via the group)
> I will attach the photo.
>
> Harvey, W8DX
>

# 1211. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 10:36:51 UTC
From: k8nb
Topic: 1189  Message: 1211

I only own 3 bugs, a '55 Champion, a '66 champion and an Annie bug. The '55 Champ is by far my favorite. It seems smoother than the '66 and just sends good code. I can see no major physical differences between the two Champs, but the older one is much nicer.

73 all,
Noel, K8NB
SKCC 3112T

# 1212. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-17 13:07:58 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1189  Message: 1212

Very Good. It seems like the older bugs play a little easier, and they are much quieter when playing too. anyone else notice that? My annie. Sounds like a cement mixer coming down the road, and my 1938 junior just glides right along. the blue racer 2000 is not to bad, but it's still no match for the older ones.--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k8nb" <k8nb@...> wrote:
>
> I only own 3 bugs, a '55 Champion, a '66 champion and an Annie bug. The '55 Champ is by far my favorite. It seems smoother than the '66 and just sends good code. I can see no major physical differences between the two Champs, but the older one is much nicer.
>
> 73 all,
> Noel, K8NB
> SKCC 3112T
>

# 1213. RFTB tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-20 23:34:43 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1213  Message: 1213

RFTB is tonight! For many areas of the country, we are getting a taste of Autumn - maybe 80 Meters will be hopping tonight!

See you on the air from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern time.

For details, please visit:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1214. Re: Favorite Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-21 15:55:17 UTC
From: ve7bgp
Topic: 1189  Message: 1214

The Blue Racer!
I have several bugs in my collection no question my 2 Blue Racers are my faves. The first Blue Racer I got in 2003 is missing it's serial number label is about a '52 or '53 having "Blue Racer Standard and painted Black Crackle finish. My second Blue Racer I obtained a year ago is a Circa '54 Standard I obtained from my friends estate. I repainted the Gray Crackle base that the paint was falling off with Gray Hammertone Tremclad Paint the colour match was really great. Some Vibroplex's were finished in Hammertone Finish. I had my '54 Blue Racer plugged into 2 of my Radios I used for the Classic Exchange yesterday. I had the other Blue Racer plugged into my Heathkit Trio I put on the air Yesterday for the first time. DX-60, HG-10 and HR-10 no letters on mine! are the Heathkit trio. I had a lot of fun despite band conditions were poor. The bands pretty well closed on 80 and 40 after I got the 3 contacts on 80 on my FT-757GX. Unfortunately I did not make any contacts on 80 and 40 last nite after I got my dishes done to get the really great age multiplier from this early 60's vintage set up. what a difference going to the seperates after operating my FT-757GX and IC-751A I used my '54 Blue Racer on.
73
Gerry VE7BGP

# 1215. Mystery "Icom" Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-22 09:05:48 UTC
From: morsemad
Topic: 1215  Message: 1215

Hello all. I am trying to find information on a semi automatic bug key that was reportedly sold by Thanet Electronics, Herne Bay, Kent, UK in the 60/70's. Thanet Elecs. became Icom UK in the 80's. If you have one of these bugs, or know anything about them, I would love to hear from you.
The key is on display as #101 on here: http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm

Yours hopefully, John / G0RDO

# 1216. too much weight?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-22 18:33:38 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1216  Message: 1216

Is it possible to put too much weight on a bug for its own good? What I'm asking is - can I harm the bearing or whatever, by adding another weight on the outer end of the pendulum? The nonstandard weight was machined by a friend of mine for his bug, to fit right over the end of the bar. The bug is a Vibroplex Original from the 1970's, which I found at a swap meet.

Hopefully this is only a short term issue, until I can do code faster. I'm guessing that the loaded bug sounds good at about 10 - 15 WPM now, so far used by me only in practice because of the "extra dots" that I occasionally still get.

Kate KD6HTN

# 1217. Re: [cw_bugs] too much weight?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-22 19:27:22 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1216  Message: 1217

Hello Kate,

It depends on how big the weight is!

Vibroplex used to only have what is NOW called a small weight - they supplied two of them. Vibroplex sells a big weight equal to three small weights. I've loaded a bug with TWO of the big weights - the entire vibrator was covered with weight. I had no problem.

I've seen people who wind solder (lead/tin) around the vibrator, people who tie fishing weights to the vibrator, or unscrew a PL-259 and use the gap between the shell and inside internal edge (usually inside that is - but it is showing when you do this) and screw down on the shell and grip the vibrator.

I've never repaired one that was damaged by anyone doing this - but that doesn't say that if you play rough with your Vibroplex you won't hurt it.

A Vibroplex is like a musical instrument - be gentle with it - but it surely can take a moderate amount of weight - maybe up to an ounce or two - at any rate about six times the small weight if anyone cares to weight the small weight and multiply by six, or the large weight and multiply by two.

I've also seen solid brass rods (1/2 inch stock) filled with lead used as weights.

73

David Ring
N1EA
-30-

On Tue, Sep 22, 2009 at 2:33 PM, Kate Hutton <katehutton@...> wrote:

>
>
> Is it possible to put too much weight on a bug for its own good? What I'm
> asking is - can I harm the bearing or whatever, by adding another weight on
> the outer end of the pendulum? The nonstandard weight was machined by a
> friend of mine for his bug, to fit right over the end of the bar. The bug
> is a Vibroplex Original from the 1970's, which I found at a swap meet.
>
> Hopefully this is only a short term issue, until I can do code faster. I'm
> guessing that the loaded bug sounds good at about 10 - 15 WPM now, so far
> used by me only in practice because of the "extra dots" that I occasionally
> still get.
>

> Kate KD6HTN
>
>
>

# 1218. Re: [cw_bugs] too much weight?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-22 19:58:54 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1216  Message: 1218

As a practical matter, none of us is likely to "wear out" a bug by using too much weight. Having said that, it is intuitive that the more weight you add to the pendulum, the more wear you will have on the trunion pin and its socket. The downward force of the added weight (or any weight, including that of the pendulum itself), is exerted at a right angle against the front bearing surface of the "top" trunion pin and its socket and against the rear bearing surface of the "bottom" trunion pin and its socket. Do I think the heavy weight is a recipe for a ruined trunion? No, but instinctively, I try to avoid additional weight on my pendulums.
73, Milt
k4oso

# 1219. Re: [cw_bugs] too much weight?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-22 20:02:19 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1216  Message: 1219

On Tue, Sep 22, 2009 at 12:58 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

> No, but instinctively, I try to avoid additional weight on my pendulums.
>
>
>
HI HI ... yes, I work on this every day. It is called code practice!

Kate KD6HTN

# 1220. fav bug - blue racer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-23 01:53:57 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1220  Message: 1220

Congrats on your Heathkit station(s)

The blue racer I have and enjoy using came from VE7-land. It was used on the Canadian Pacific. It dates from 1917, and is original cobalt blue. It is well worn, and I do have to fuss with it from time to time, but it is still a lot of fun to use.

BUT, favorite? GEE, that is HARD !!!

OK, I'll bite.

My favorite bug to use on the air is a 1936 McElroy. It is especially smooth operating at relatively slow speeds, the code just sort of rolls off of it. It is just the right amount of hound-dog ugly to be very masculine, and one has got to love the World's Fastest Telegrapher cast into the bottom.

And yet ... the 1943 Standard Radio bug, maroon, is another solid and smoot performer, a joy to use.

The 1951 right-angle Simplex Auto from Australia is excellent at amzingly slow speeds.

The 1910 double lever offers a special challenge since it is possible to close both dot and dash at the same time, you gotta be "on" tonight!

And who can deny the pixie, the 1921 Martin Junior. Delicate and finicky, yes, but it can really cook.

Flop your hand to the side, relax, and finger the Candain Bent Dow, what fun!

I give up. They are ALL fun!

www.KT5X.com

73

FD

# 1221. Begali Intrepid Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-09-28 14:55:51 UTC
From: ronald913129
Topic: 1221  Message: 1221

Hi All,
Well my Begali Intrepid bug has arrived direct
from Italy,very well packed and obviously shipped
with care by DPD Couriers.
The first thing that struck
me on unpacking the key was the weight (around 6lbs)
and solid construction. It's beautifully finished and
comes with a booklet describing the adjustment process.
The base is cast iron and finished in a dark grey while
the upper parts are gold plated with the levers in silver.
This key,once on the desk,is certainly not going to move
about. I've tried to move it with a very heavy keying fist
and it won't budge! There are 8 points of adjustment and
magnets are used for dot spacing and damping.The key can
be set for a very light action and with its solid feel,it
tends to give me an overall "in control" feeling.Once on
the desk and hooked up to the radio,I was surprised at
the complete silence of the pendulum,the only sound is
the making of the dash contacts with a light "click".
There are two speed weights and they can be set from
around 16/17wpm up to 40wpm.A nice 20wpm can be achieved
with one weight at either end of the pendulum. All
adjustments are made with fine threaded and spring loaded
screws (no lock nuts).
I've found the key very comfortable
to use and the weight and solid construction all adds to
the overall enjoyment. I'ts definately a winner for me.
At the price of 455euros,this translated to £420 and,for
many of us is a considered purchase (I sold 2 bugs to part
finance it). The key is No.16 so they're not selling in
vast quantities but I'm happy I got mine.
73,
Ron g3xov

# 1222. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-10-13 17:21:04 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1222

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for October, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200910.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and having the most QSO's with our anniversary special event stations.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1223. RFTB tomorrow night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-15 02:20:51 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1223  Message: 1223

RFTB is tomorrow night! November seems to be flying by as fast as Summer went. Before you know it, it will be Thanksgiving and then Christmas. Wow - where did 2009 go?

So relax from the hustle and bustle and spend some time with the Flying Pigs. See you on the air from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern time.

For details, please visit:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1224. vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-15 16:11:37 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1224  Message: 1224

Fellow Morse enthusiasts,

I am serving the widow of an old friend, Kerry (KR), N6WU. Kerry had an extensive collection of vintage Vibroplex bugs. If you are interested in acquiring a vintage Vibroplex, request the list. From the list, you may request pictures, then make the widow a reasonable offer for any (or all!).

73, Fred - KT5X

< www.KT5X.com >

< SummitSeeking.blogspot.com >

# 1225. Re: [cw_bugs] vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-15 18:58:10 UTC
From: n6zv@aol.com
Topic: 1224  Message: 1225

Hi Fred Please send me a list of the keys
Thanks
Vince, K5VT

In a message dated 11/15/2009 9:12:12 A.M. US Mountain Standard Time,
KT5X@... writes:

I am serving the widow of an old friend, Kerry (KR), N6WU. Kerry had an
extensive collection of vintage Vibroplex bugs. If you are interested in
acquiring a vintage Vibroplex, request the list. From the list, you may
request pictures, then make the widow a reasonable offer for any (or all!).

73, Fred - KT5X

< _www.KT5X.com_ (http://www.kt5x.com/) >

< SummitSeeking. SummitSe SummitS>

# 1226. Special event station IIØTRM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-15 22:33:17 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci IKØIXI, NB1V
Topic: 1226  Message: 1226

Special event station IIØTRM will be active from Nov. 16 to Nov. 22, CW only, in commemoration
of the 70th anniversary of the Morse Code receiving speed record of
Theodore R. McElroy, W1JYN. He was a great morse bugs maker too.
See IIØTRM on QRZ.COM fot further info.

Best 73 de Fabio Bonucci - IKØIXI, NB1V

" Pauci Sed Semper immites ! "

_·_· _ _·_ _·_· _ _·_ _·_· _ _ ·_ _·_· _ _·_ _·_· _ _·_
U.S. Amateur Extra as NB1V
INORC # 462 - FISTS # 14359
HSC # 1888 - SHSC # 175 - SKCC # 4331
Marconista # 355
I-QRP # 737 - G-QRP # 12Ø95
ARS # 1218 - ARMI # A/490
ARI - Sezione Alto Lazio - www.arialtolazio.it
Home page: www.ik0ixi.it
Email: ik0ixi@arialtolazio.it

# 1227. Special event station IIØTRM

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-15 22:40:12 UTC
From: inorc462
Topic: 1227  Message: 1227

Special event station IIØTRM will be active from Nov. 16 to Nov. 22, CW only, in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Morse Code receiving speed record of Theodore R. McElroy, W1JYN. He was a great morse bugs maker too. See IIØTRM on QRZ.COM fot further info.

Best 73 de Fabio Bonucci - IKØIXI, NB1V

# 1228. Re: vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 00:26:51 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1224  Message: 1228

I would like a list.
Thanks,
Harvey, W8DX

# 1229. Re: [cw_bugs] vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 04:45:18 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1224  Message: 1229

Hello,

I would be interested in the list.

Thanks!!

Jason Hissong N8XE

cloud runner wrote:
>
> Fellow Morse enthusiasts,
> I am serving the widow of an old friend, Kerry (KR), N6WU. Kerry had
> an extensive collection of vintage Vibroplex bugs. If you are
> interested in acquiring a vintage Vibroplex, request the list. >From
> the list, you may request pictures, then make the widow a reasonable
> offer for any (or all!).
> 73, Fred - KT5X
> < www.KT5X.com <http://www.KT5X.com> >
> < SummitSeeking.blogspot.com >
>

# 1230. Re: [cw_bugs] vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 08:00:34 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1224  Message: 1230

Hey Fred;

I'd like a list as well !!

- Bob
w9ya

On Sun, Nov 15, 2009 at 9:11 AM, cloud runner <KT5X@...> wrote:

>
>
> Fellow Morse enthusiasts,
>
> I am serving the widow of an old friend, Kerry (KR), N6WU. Kerry had an
> extensive collection of vintage Vibroplex bugs. If you are interested in
> acquiring a vintage Vibroplex, request the list. From the list, you may
> request pictures, then make the widow a reasonable offer for any (or all!).
>
> 73, Fred - KT5X
>
> < www.KT5X.com >
>
> < SummitSeeking.blogspot.com >
>
>
>
>
>

# 1231. Re: vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 12:18:18 UTC
From: morsemad
Topic: 1224  Message: 1231

I would like a list Fred, can't resist, Hi.

--- In cw_bugs@...m, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> Fellow Morse enthusiasts,
>
> I am serving the widow of an old friend, Kerry (KR), N6WU. Kerry had an extensive collection of vintage Vibroplex bugs. If you are interested in acquiring a vintage Vibroplex, request the list. From the list, you may request pictures, then make the widow a reasonable offer for any (or all!).
>
> 73, Fred - KT5X
>
> < www.KT5X.com >
>
> < SummitSeeking.blogspot.com >
>

# 1232. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: vintage bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 12:32:21 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1224  Message: 1232

With permission, here's the list.

N6WU (SK) Catalog of collection … ALL proceeds go to Kerry’s widow.
make offers to Fred < kt5x@cybermesa.com > pictures of any key may be requested

☐ # 0000 has hole in label, can not be read, black japanned Original with D plate
☐ # 58323 1916 Original, C-1 plate, bent dash lever, repairable
☐ # 58524 1916 (black) Number 4, C-1 plate, two weights
☐ # 64435 1917 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
☐ # 65643 1917 Original, C-2 plate, no weight
☐ # 66235 1918 Number 4, C-2 plate, one non-original weight
☐ # 70047 1919 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
☐ # 71332 1919 Original, C-3 plate, one large non-original weight
☐ # 72017 1919 Number 4 on wide base, UNUSUAL, C-3 plate
☐ # 75377 1920 Original, C-3 plate, T-damper, bug decal, one weight
☐ # 80410 1921 Junior, D-1 plate, one weight
☐ # 80712 1921 Original, one weight
☐ # 82211 1922 Original, D-1 plate, excellent pin striping, 2 weights
☐ # 82491 1922 cloverleaf Racer, D-1 plate, fossil ivory FP, 2 weights
☐ # 83433 1923 black Original, substitute large weight
☐ # 97243 1926 black, one weight
☐ # 102509 1929 Lightning #6, large weight - SOLD
☐ # 108906 1935 Junior, fair condition, Japanned, no weight
☐ # 109627 1935 Junior, good condition, black Japanned with p/s, large wt
☐ # 116944 1939 Original, black crinkle, odd finger pieces, no wt
☐ # 117371 1940 Lightning, extra bolt in base(?)
☐ # 118998 1940 Lightning, very nice
☐ # 119116 1940 Early Lightning deluxe. Some crinkling of chrome
☐ # 120275 1941 Original, black crinkle, no weight
☐ # 128336 1943 Racer, U-damper, black crinkle, brass plate, one wt
☐ # 132003 1944 Lightning, tin painted plate
☐ # 140255 1945 Deluxe Original, battleship grey, tin plate, modern rounded form
☐ # 145676 1945 Zephyr, black crinkle, WW II tin plate (scarce permutation)
☐ # 149642 1946 Racer, D-damper
☐ # 152334 1950 Deluxe chrome racer, vy slight pitting
☐ # 155766 1951 Original, black crinkle, no wt

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1233. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-16 15:26:44 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1233

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for November, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/sprint200911.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and having the earliest date of their first ham radio license. You need not have been licensed continually, only the date of your first license counts.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1234. updated bugs for sale list

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-17 14:13:10 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1234  Message: 1234

N6WU (SK) Catalog of collection . ALL proceeds go to Kerry's widow.

make offers to Fred < kt5x@... > pictures of any key may be requested

a.. # 0000 has hole in label, can not be read, black japanned Original with D plate
b.. # 58323 1916 Original, C-1 plate, bent dash lever, repairable
c.. # 58524 1916 (black) Number 4, C-1 plate, two weights OFFER pending
d.. # 64435 1917 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
e.. # 65643 1917 Original, C-2 plate, no weight
f.. # 66235 1918 Number 4, C-2 plate, one non-original weight
g.. # 70047 1919 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
h.. # 71332 1919 Original, C-3 plate, one large non-original weight
i.. # 72017 1919 Number 4 on wide base, UNUSUAL, C-3 plate OFFER pending
j.. # 75377 1920 Original, C-3 plate, T-damper, bug decal, one weight
k.. # 80410 1921 Junior, D-1 plate, one weight
l.. # 80712 1921 Original, one weight
m.. # 82211 1922 Original, D-1 plate, excellent pin striping, 2 weights
n.. # 82491 1922 cloverleaf Racer, D-1 plate, fossil ivory FP, 2 weights
o.. # 83433 1923 black Original, substitute large weight
p.. # 97243 1926 black Original, one weight
q.. # 102509 1929 Lightning #6, large weight - SOLD
r.. # 108906 1935 Junior, fair condition, Japanned, no weight
s.. # 109627 1935 Junior, good condition, black Japanned with p/s, large wt
t.. # 116944 1939 Original, black crinkle, odd finger pieces, no wt
u.. # 117371 1940 Lightning, extra bolt in base(?)
v.. # 118398 1940 Lightning, very nice SOLD
w.. # 119116 1940 Early Lightning deluxe. Some crinkling of chrome
x.. # 120275 1941 Original, black crinkle, no weight
y.. # 128336 1943 Racer, U-damper, black crinkle, brass plate, one wt
z.. # 132003 1944 Champion, vy nice, tin painted plate
aa.. # 140255 1945 Deluxe Original, battleship grey, tin plate, modern rounded form
ab.. # 145676 1945 Zephyr, black crinkle, WW II tin plate OFFER pending
ac.. # 149642 1946 Racer, D-damper
ad.. # 152334 1950 Deluxe chrome racer, vy slight pitting
ae.. # 155766 1951 Original, black crinkle, no wt
af.. # 157451 1953 Deluxe chrome Original, E F Johnson sliding weight
ag.. # 172310 1954 Deluxe Lightning w/ Hills speed changer
ah.. # 174537 1954 Deluxe Original, 2 wts, missing plastic jewel
ai.. # 175659 1955 std original, last of the black crinkles
aj.. # 179186 1956 Presentation, large wt. LaHiffe?
ak.. # 189012 1957 Original, black crinkle, unusual label
al.. # 191968 1958 std gray Racer, 2 wts
am.. # 205072 1959 std grey champion
an.. # 210532 1960 std gray Champion
ao.. # 233448 1963 Deluxe single lever paddle SOLD

# 1235. updated list of bugs for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-18 03:19:23 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1235  Message: 1235

here is the latest update key collection:

N6WU (SK) Catalog of collection . ALL proceeds go to Kerry's widow.

make offers to Fred < kt5x@cybermesa.com > pictures of any key may be requested.

Sue expects an additional fifteen dollars shipping and packaging for one key, $20 for two

a.. # 0000 has hole in label, can not be read, black japanned Original with D plate
b.. # 58323 1916 Original, C-1 plate, bent dash lever, repairable
c.. # 58524 1916 (black) Number 4, C-1 plate, two weights OFFER
d.. # 64435 1917 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
e.. # 65643 1917 Original, C-2 plate, no weight
f.. # 66235 1918 Number 4, C-2 plate, one non-original weight
g.. # 70047 1919 Original, C-2 plate, one weight
h.. # 71332 1919 Original, C-3 plate, one large non-original weight
i.. # 72017 1919 Number 4 on wide base, UNUSUAL, C-3 plate OFFER
j.. # 75377 1920 Original, C-3 plate, T-damper, bug decal, one weight
k.. # 80410 1921 Junior, D-1 plate, one weight SOLD
l.. # 80712 1921 Original, one weight
m.. # 82211 1922 Original, D-1 plate, excellent pin striping, 2 weights
n.. # 82491 1922 cloverleaf Racer, D-1 plate, fossil ivory FP, 2 wts SOLD
o.. # 83433 1923 black Original, substitute large weight
p.. # 97243 1926 black Original, one weight
q.. # 102509 1929 Lightning #6, large weight - SOLD
r.. # 108906 1935 Junior, fair condition, Japanned, no weight
s.. # 109627 1936 Junior, good condition, black Japanned with p/s, large wt
t.. # 116944 1939 Original, black crinkle, odd finger pieces, no wt
u.. # 117371 1940 Lightning, extra bolt in base(?)
v.. # 118398 1940 Lightning, very nice SOLD
w.. # 119116 1940 Early Lightning deluxe. Some crinkling of chrome
x.. # 120275 1941 Original, black crinkle, no weight
y.. # 128336 1943 Racer, U-damper, black crinkle, brass plate, one wt
z.. # 132003 1944 Champion, vy nice, tin painted plate
aa.. # 140255 1945 Deluxe Original, battleship grey, tin plate, modern rounded form
ab.. # 145676 1945 Zephyr, black crinkle, WW II tin plate SOLD
ac.. # 149642 1946 Racer, D-damper
ad.. # 152334 1950 Deluxe chrome racer, vy slight pitting OFFER
ae.. # 155766 1951 Original, black crinkle, no wt
af.. # 157451 1953 Deluxe chrome Original, E F Johnson sliding weight
ag.. # 172310 1954 Deluxe Lightning w/ Hills speed changer
ah.. # 174537 1954 Deluxe Original, 2 wts, missing plastic jewel
ai.. # 175659 1955 std Original, last of the black crinkles
aj.. # 179186 1956 Presentation, large wt. LaHiffe adjustable mainspring
ak.. # 183737 1956 std Original, exclnt
al.. # 189012 1957 Original, black crinkle, unusual label

```
am.. # 191968 1958 std gray Racer, 2 wts
an.. # 195673 1958 std Lightning, exclnt
a.. # 205072 1959 std grey champion, exclnt
b.. # 210532 1960 std gray Champion
c.. # 233448 1963 Deluxe single lever paddle SOLD
d.. # 239799 1969 BEIGE single lever paddle
e.. # ??? 1930's home-made bug SOLD
```

# 1236. brief survey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 14:32:31 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1236  Message: 1236

Do you have in your collection a Vibroplex WW II (battleship grey deluxe) Racer??? If so, would you share with me serial and perhaps photo? TNX !!!

Fred - KT5X

# 1237. brief survey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 16:58:18 UTC
From: David Holley
Topic: 1236  Message: 1237

Fred & all,

I have a WW 2 Blue Racer Deluxe in my collection. It is serial number (141,835) and has several unusual features other than the fact that it is

battleship gray. The frame on this key has a flatter top and is a thicker & taller casting than normal. The U damper is also a bit unusual in that the

side on which the damper wheel is screwed is canted slightly. My WW 2 Std Blue Racer (137,795) also has this odd damper but

has the standard casting on the frame. Both keys obviously have the lacquered tin Vibroplex plate. Vibroplex probably used different vendors for

parts during the war, which may have caused some variation. I will try to send a pic later to your email.

Dave de N5MO

# 1238. Vibroplex Collectors Guide

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 17:47:40 UTC
From: n3cw
Topic: 1238  Message: 1238

Anyone have a source for a copy of the "Vibroplex Collectors Guide?" by Artifax Books?
Seems like it is out of print with no idea of a next printing...
--Ed--

# 1239. Re: [cw_bugs] brief survey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 19:27:55 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1236  Message: 1239

Dave,
I'd love to see a pic of that Racer, too.
Thanks es 73
Milt k4oso

# 1240. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Collectors Guide

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 21:05:52 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1238  Message: 1240

They show up on ebay from time to time...

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "n3cw" <ed.goss@comcast.net>
Date: Sat, 21 Nov 2009 17:47:40
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Collectors Guide

Anyone have a source for a copy of the "Vibroplex Collectors Guide?" by Artifax Books?
Seems like it is out of print with no idea of a next printing...
--Ed--

# 1241. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Collectors Guide

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-11-21 21:48:39 UTC
From: Michael Shelly
Topic: 1238  Message: 1241

Assuming you tried Amazon and Barns and Nobel try Universal Radio. I kid of remember seeing a lot of books on keys in there catalog. www.universal-radio.com

Good luck
Mike
WB2KKI

---
From: n3cw <ed.goss@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sat, November 21, 2009 12:47:40 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Collectors Guide

Anyone have a source for a copy of the "Vibroplex Collectors Guide?" by Artifax Books?
Seems like it is out of print with no idea of a next printing...
--Ed--

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1242. Anyone seen a Lightning bug painted blue-green?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-02 21:18:02 UTC
From: John
Topic: 1242  Message: 1242

I have one that I got on ebay that was missing the nameplate. I saw another one the same color once. I guess someone repainted a J-36 or a batch of them.

# 1243. Re: [cw_bugs] Anyone seen a Lightning bug painted blue-green?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-02 21:33:28 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1242  Message: 1243

As far as I know Lightning Bugs - were made in grey (WW2 until mid 1950s), then black, and a few Sienna Brown around 1969. Prior to WW2 this key appeared in nickle plate, after WW2 in chrome plate, as well as the standard black and earlier than that in Japaned black (asphault paint) and gold detailing of pin stripes and little edge designs.

73

DR

David Ring
N1EA
-30-

On Wed, Dec 2, 2009 at 4:18 PM, John <qrpcwguy@...> wrote:

> I have one that I got on ebay that was missing the nameplate. I saw
> another one the same color once. I guess someone repainted a J-36 or a
> batch of them.
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1244. Re: [cw_bugs] Anyone seen a Lightning bug painted blue-green?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-02 22:48:28 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1242  Message: 1244

No I haven't seen a green Lightning Bug but, I am in the process now of painting the base of one of my Blue Racers...Deep Maroon. Its gonna look cool. I saw one in Fred KT5X's collection. I'll probably do another one Cobalt Blue.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 12/2/2009 4:18:35 PM Eastern Standard Time, qrpcwguy@... writes:

I have one that I got on ebay that was missing the nameplate. I saw another one the same color once. I guess someone repainted a J-36 or a batch of them.

# 1245. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-05 23:51:06 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1245

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for December, 2009.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint200912.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among the following: The one making the highest score in each division and using a homebrew rig built from scratch - kits do not count.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1246. Re: [BrassPounders] Vibroplex's new owner---good news...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-07 18:48:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1246  Message: 1246

Very good news indeed, and I'm cc: this to a couple MORE folks!

Vy 7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

Chuck wrote:
> W4PA---TenTec's product manager has purchased Vibroplex----
> Details at:
> http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/07/11233/
> <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/12/07/11233/>
> 73,Chuck K4PBY
>
>

# 1247. what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 00:54:35 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1247

I Got my Tech, in aug 2007. I soon upgraded to general then to extra, All No code test. Through the ribbing and freindly heckling from two local hams. I decided to pick up CW. The mode grew on me big time. I used a J-38 Straight key, given to me by one of the hecklers :-) I love using straight keys, i tried paddles, but that grew boring to me. I always liked the way a Bug sounded on air, especially in the hands of a skilled operator. I had to try one myself. All i wanted was one to play with. Here i am now Dec 2009, I have 9 Bugs in the cabinet, and i am soon getting number 10 :-) Man these things are addicting. I still don't know why they are so much fun to use, but i sure do enjoy the heck out of them. LONG LIVE CW, AND BUGS DE KE5PWL SKCC 4229T. W.A.S. SKCC #52 ..

# 1248. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 05:35:23 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 1247  Message: 1248

Thank goodness for "hecklers"!

You've got me beat Eric; 26 years in ham radio and I only have 5 bugs.

Congrat's

Jack - N0NV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...> wrote:
>
> I Got my Tech, in aug 2007. I soon upgraded to general then to extra, All No code test. Through the ribbing and freindly heckling from two local hams. I decided to pick up CW. The mode grew on me big time. I used a J-38 Straight key, given to me by one of the hecklers :-) I love using straight keys, i tried paddles, but that grew boring to me. I always liked the way a Bug sounded on air, especially in the hands of a skilled operator. I had to try one myself. All i wanted was one to play with. Here i am now Dec 2009, I have 9 Bugs in the cabinet, and i am soon getting number 10 :-) Man these things are addicting. I still don't know why they are so much fun to use, but i sure do enjoy the heck out of them. LONG LIVE CW, AND BUGS DE KE5PWL SKCC 4229T. W.A.S. SKCC #52 ..
>

# 1249. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 14:49:26 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1249

That's Cool Jack, I know you have fun with all of them. I am Only 28 Years old Jack, This might turn out to be an incredible collection someday :-) I usually give myself a Bug Budget from what i make at work, i can usually afford a Bug a month :-) if i find one i like. i really like the ww2 era, and some pre war era bugs. That's what i look for. I do like to have the odd models also, Like the junior, i have one in my collection, I am still trying to find a Zepher at the right price and condition. I am Glad for those HECKLERS too HI HI. I should make them pay for my bug addiction though :-) 73'..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "nzeronv" <nzeronv@...> wrote:
>
>
> Thank goodness for "hecklers"!
>
> You've got me beat Eric; 26 years in ham radio and I only have 5 bugs.
>
> Congrat's
>
> Jack - N0NV
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@> wrote:
> >
> > I Got my Tech, in aug 2007. I soon upgraded to general then to extra, All No code test. Through the ribbing and freindly heckling from two local hams. I decided to pick up CW. The mode grew on me big time. I used a J-38 Straight key, given to me by one of the hecklers :-) I love using straight keys, i tried paddles, but that grew boring to me. I always liked the way a Bug sounded on air, especially in the hands of a skilled operator. I had to try one myself. All i wanted was one to play with. Here i am now Dec 2009, I have 9 Bugs in the cabinet, and i am soon getting number 10 :-) Man these things are addicting. I still don't know why they are so much fun to use, but i sure do enjoy the heck out of them. LONG LIVE CW, AND BUGS DE KE5PWL SKCC 4229T. W.A.S. SKCC #52 ..
> >
>

# 1250. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 15:25:50 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1247  Message: 1250

I recently aquired a 1946 Deluxe Blue Racer (just love those little guys) and my first Junior! I have been doing CW now going on 12 years and I learned to not like bugs. I thought that the extreme swing heard in some fists were hard to copy and irritating. Then when I joined SKCC, a discussion started up about bugs and peaked my interest. I found that one does not need to have a large swing to using it. I also found out that you can make some great sounding code on a bug. So I borrowed a 1940's era Lionel J36 bug.

I now have 7. My next bug will be a clover-leaf style Blue Racer if I can find one. And I too want to get a Zephyr.

Jason N8XE

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 9:49 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

>
>
> That's Cool Jack, I know you have fun with all of them. I am Only 28 Years
> old Jack, This might turn out to be an incredible collection someday :-) I
> usually give myself a Bug Budget from what i make at work, i can usually
> afford a Bug a month :-) if i find one i like. i really like the ww2 era,
> and some pre war era bugs. That's what i look for. I do like to have the odd
> models also, Like the junior, i have one in my collection, I am still trying
> to find a Zepher at the right price and condition. I am Glad for those
> HECKLERS too HI HI. I should make them pay for my bug addiction though :-)
> 73'..
>
>
>
>

# 1251. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 15:41:25 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1247  Message: 1251

Jason -

I know what you mean about the swing. As you know, I'm less than 1 yr on CW. I'm learning to do the slow traffic net & there is one NCS who apparently uses an unweighted bug. Slow means a lot of Farnsworth & a lot of swing. As yet, I cannot check in when he's up, because I cannot follow him. I suppose my ear will catch up eventually, but for now it's a problem.

A friend of mine lent me a custom weight that he made, which does slow my Original down to 15 WPM & it sounds as good as I can make it sound, which does need improvement. I have Extendadot coming in the mail at this moment.

I find bugs a challenge to learn, but they are fascinating nonetheless. I can see how people turn into collectors.

Kate KD6HTN

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 7:25 AM, Jason Hissong <jhissong@...> wrote:

>
>
> I recently aquired a 1946 Deluxe Blue Racer (just love those little guys)
> and my first Junior! I have been doing CW now going on 12 years and I
> learned to not like bugs. I thought that the extreme swing heard in some
> fists were hard to copy and irritating. Then when I joined SKCC, a
> discussion started up about bugs and peaked my interest. I found that one
> does not need to have a large swing to using it. I also found out that you
> can make some great sounding code on a bug. So I borrowed a 1940's era
> Lionel J36 bug.
>
> I now have 7. My next bug will be a clover-leaf style Blue Racer if I can
> find one. And I too want to get a Zephyr.
>
> Jason N8XE
>
> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 9:49 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> That's Cool Jack, I know you have fun with all of them. I am Only 28 Years
>> old Jack, This might turn out to be an incredible collection someday :-) I
>> usually give myself a Bug Budget from what i make at work, i can usually
>> afford a Bug a month :-) if i find one i like. i really like the ww2 era,
>> and some pre war era bugs. That's what i look for. I do like to have the odd
>> models also, Like the junior, i have one in my collection, I am still trying
>> to find a Zepher at the right price and condition. I am Glad for those

>> HECKLERS too HI HI. I should make them pay for my bug addiction though :-)
>> 73'..
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 1252. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 15:55:01 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1252

Kate,
I'd bet that NCS also serves on a high-speed net. Speed changes a fist. Especially in the NCS role on a high-speed net. The fist becomes very much more staccato. In the interest of efficiency in the face, sometimes, of high traffic loads, the NCS must must move very quickly. I can empathize with your plight. The NCS will send a burst of stuff to which one of the experienced stations answers "R" and sends a burst of stuff. Ha ha.....You are exactly right, though.....in time, you will begin to hear and understand. Its all about syncopation.
Oh, by the way...as far as avoiding this particular NCS is involved.....Its ok to send "IMI" when he blows something by you. If you don't understand who he is pairing you with, just send "who?". If you didn't understand the QNY, just send "where?" Soon, he'll get the idea you are not one of his seasoned, steel-eared veterans.
Good luck and enjoy the fun.
73, Milt

In a message dated 12/10/2009 10:42:04 AM Eastern Standard Time, katehutton@... writes:

Jason -

I know what you mean about the swing. As you know, I'm less than 1 yr on CW. I'm learning to do the slow traffic net & there is one NCS who apparently uses an unweighted bug. Slow means a lot of Farnsworth & a lot of swing. As yet, I cannot check in when he's up, because I cannot follow him. I suppose my ear will catch up eventually, but for now it's a problem.

# 1253. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 16:01:07 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1247  Message: 1253

I am very new & they know it. And you are right, I've heard the same guy on RN6 & he sounds great, although too fast for me to copy. Just a comment from the learning curve ...

Kate

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 7:55 AM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

>
>
> Kate,
> I'd bet that NCS also serves on a high-speed net. Speed changes a fist.
> Especially in the NCS role on a high-speed net. The fist becomes very much
> more staccato. In the interest of efficiency in the face, sometimes, of
> high traffic loads, the NCS must must move very quickly. I can empathize
> with your plight. The NCS will send a burst of stuff to which one of the
> experienced stations answers "R" and sends a burst of stuff. Ha ha.....You
> are exactly right, though.....in time, you will begin to hear and
> understand. Its all about syncopation.
> Oh, by the way...as far as avoiding this particular NCS is involved.....Its
> ok to send "IMI" when he blows something by you. If you don't understand
> who he is pairing you with, just send "who?". If you didn't understand the
> QNY, just send "where?" Soon, he'll get the idea you are not one of his
> seasoned, steel-eared veterans.
> Good luck and enjoy the fun.
> 73, Milt
>
> In a message dated 12/10/2009 10:42:04 AM Eastern Standard Time,
> katehutton@... writes:
>
> Jason -
>
> I know what you mean about the swing. As you know, I'm less than 1 yr on
> CW. I'm learning to do the slow traffic net & there is one NCS who
> apparently uses an unweighted bug. Slow means a lot of Farnsworth & a lot
> of swing. As yet, I cannot check in when he's up, because I cannot follow
> him. I suppose my ear will catch up eventually, but for now it's a problem.
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1254. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 16:03:49 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1247  Message: 1254

Kate,

You will like the Extend-a-dot. When I got the Junior and BR, that was the first thing I bought. Frank makes a great product and a pleasure to do business with. You won't regret your purchase.

I too check into our slow traffic net here. I can copy ops with a swing now, but when I was learning, boy was it hard to do!

To me, bugs and straight keys are like musical instruments. You have to learn how to play them. And practice with them allows you to play them well. I really enjoy it.

So we need to set up a sked sometime on 20. It's been cloudy here so I have not had the telescope out much. Trying to sell one so that I can get a new rig :) So when it is cloudy and cold, I hop on the radio HI!!

73, and Clear Skies!
Jason N8XE

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 10:41 AM, Kate Hutton <katehutton@...> wrote:

>
>
> Jason -
>
> I know what you mean about the swing. As you know, I'm less than 1 yr on
> CW. I'm learning to do the slow traffic net & there is one NCS who
> apparently uses an unweighted bug. Slow means a lot of Farnsworth & a lot
> of swing. As yet, I cannot check in when he's up, because I cannot follow
> him. I suppose my ear will catch up eventually, but for now it's a problem.
>
> A friend of mine lent me a custom weight that he made, which does slow my
> Original down to 15 WPM & it sounds as good as I can make it sound, which
> does need improvement. I have Extendadot coming in the mail at this moment.
>
> I find bugs a challenge to learn, but they are fascinating nonetheless. I
> can see how people turn into collectors.
>
> Kate KD6HTN
>
>
> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 7:25 AM, Jason Hissong <jhissong@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> I recently aquired a 1946 Deluxe Blue Racer (just love those little guys)

>> and my first Junior! I have been doing CW now going on 12 years and I
>> learned to not like bugs. I thought that the extreme swing heard in some
>> fists were hard to copy and irritating. Then when I joined SKCC, a
>> discussion started up about bugs and peaked my interest. I found that one
>> does not need to have a large swing to using it. I also found out that you
>> can make some great sounding code on a bug. So I borrowed a 1940's era
>> Lionel J36 bug.
>>
>> I now have 7. My next bug will be a clover-leaf style Blue Racer if I can
>> find one. And I too want to get a Zephyr.
>>
>> Jason N8XE
>>
>> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 9:49 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...>wrote:
>>
>>>
>>>
>>> That's Cool Jack, I know you have fun with all of them. I am Only 28
>>> Years old Jack, This might turn out to be an incredible collection someday
>>> :-) I usually give myself a Bug Budget from what i make at work, i can
>>> usually afford a Bug a month :-) if i find one i like. i really like the ww2
>>> era, and some pre war era bugs. That's what i look for. I do like to have
>>> the odd models also, Like the junior, i have one in my collection, I am
>>> still trying to find a Zepher at the right price and condition. I am Glad
>>> for those HECKLERS too HI HI. I should make them pay for my bug addiction
>>> though :-) 73'..
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>

# 1255. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 16:54:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1255

You folks are all so fortunate! I've been a ham for 27 yrs es hv 3 bugs but only 1 slow enuf 4 me hi ho es can't use in the truck cuz of ruf ride. Arm falls out of frame. Wish I cud use 1 mobile as I'm on the road so much.

BlackBerry is like CW - abbreviate it all HI HI

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1256. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 17:35:32 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1256

All Good comments guys, I like it :-). Kate, you might want to try and find an older model lightning Bug or champion. They will slow waayyy down for you, without extra weights or anything. You will like the extendadot though, they do work very well. I have a hard time with my bug when i try to check into the Louisiana slow net, i don't serve as ncs, so it's not a real issue, what milt said is true, slowing down, when you are used to going fast will effect the fist in a big way :-) I usually plug in a straight key and have at it. I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> You folks are all so fortunate! I've been a ham for 27 yrs es hv 3 bugs but only 1 slow enuf 4 me hi ho es can't use in the truck cuz of ruf ride. Arm falls out of frame. Wish I cud use 1 mobile as I'm on the road so much.
>
> BlackBerry is like CW - abbreviate it all HI HI
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>

# 1257. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 17:45:34 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1257

Where r u Eric? I just left Alexandria headed for Lafayette.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 17:35:32
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

All Good comments guys, I like it :-). Kate, you might want to try and find an older model lightning Bug or champion. They will slow waayyy down for you, without extra weights or anything. You will like the extendadot though, they do work very well. I have a hard time with my bug when i try to check into the Louisiana slow net, i don't serve as ncs, so it's not a real issue, what milt said is true, slowing down, when you are used to going fast will effect the fist in a big way :-) I usually plug in a straight key and have at it. I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> You folks are all so fortunate! I've been a ham for 27 yrs es hv 3 bugs but only 1 slow enuf 4 me hi ho es can't use in the truck cuz of ruf ride. Arm falls out of frame. Wish I cud use 1 mobile as I'm on the road so much.
>
> BlackBerry is like CW - abbreviate it all HI HI
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>

# 1258. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 18:38:54 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1258

```
Hi Earl,
I think its called "Motto dotto con emotto".. :-)
```

# 1259. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 18:46:10 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1259

Earl wrote:
I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..

Earl , If you can make that happen, you will be a star in my book. We've been trying to encourage it for years now but, with no traction. Sure would be a blast if it ever happened though.....slow bugs, fast bugs..... It would be the SKCC version of Woodstock.
73, Milt k4oso

# 1260. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 18:52:55 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1260

Earl, I am in Mount Hermon,LA About 40 miles North of Hammond Louisiana. You Are a ways away from my qth :-) And going the wrong way too hi hi. Milt, I like it, woodstock for bugs :-) who's gonna be Jimmi Hendrix with a vibroplex????

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Where r u Eric? I just left Alexandria headed for Lafayette.
>
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...>
> Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 17:35:32
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
> All Good comments guys, I like it :-). Kate, you might want to try and find an older model lightning Bug or champion. They will slow waayyy down for you, without extra weights or anything. You will like the extendadot though, they do work very well. I have a hard time with my bug when i try to check into the Louisiana slow net, i don't serve as ncs, so it's not a real issue, what milt said is true, slowing down, when you are used to going fast will effect the fist in a big way :-) I usually plug in a straight key and have at it. I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@> wrote:
> >
> > You folks are all so fortunate! I've been a ham for 27 yrs es hv 3 bugs but only 1 slow enuf 4 me hi ho es can't use in the truck cuz of ruf ride. Arm falls out of frame. Wish I cud use 1 mobile as I'm on the road so much.
> >
> > BlackBerry is like CW - abbreviate it all HI HI
> >
> > Vy 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham

> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> > Posted via Blackberry
> >
>

# 1261. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:01:17 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1247  Message: 1261

I'm not up for the rain & mud, though ... can we dispense with that part?

Kate KD6HTN

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 10:52 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:

> Earl, I am in Mount Hermon,LA About 40 miles North of Hammond Louisiana.
> You Are a ways away from my qth :-) And going the wrong way too hi hi.
> Milt, I like it, woodstock for bugs :-) who's gonna be Jimmi Hendrix with a
> vibroplex????
>
>

# 1262. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:06:15 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1262

Yeah Kate, No One want's a Muddy Deluxe or presentation anyway :-) Let's keep em' clean. Maybe sober too, it's hard to use a bug really good when your stoned HI HI..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Kate Hutton <katehutton@...> wrote:
>
> I'm not up for the rain & mud, though ... can we dispense with that part?
>
> Kate KD6HTN
>
> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 10:52 AM, ke5pwleric <holmeseric19@...> wrote:
>
> > Earl, I am in Mount Hermon,LA About 40 miles North of Hammond Louisiana.
> > You Are a ways away from my qth :-) And going the wrong way too hi hi.
> > Milt, I like it, woodstock for bugs :-) who's gonna be Jimmi Hendrix with a
> > vibroplex????
> >
> >
>

# 1263. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:08:38 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 1247  Message: 1263

On 12/10/2009 01:52 PM, ke5pwleric wrote:
> Milt, I
> like it, woodstock for bugs :-) who's gonna be Jimmi Hendrix with a
> vibroplex????

When I forget to clean my contacts, the bug gets kinda screechy like Jimi's
guitar...

# 1264. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:10:53 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1264

ROFLMAO!!!

Vivace on 14.030!!

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: k4oso@...
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:38:54
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Hi Earl,
I think its called "Motto dotto con emotto".. :-)

# 1265. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:11:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1265

I guess swing=rubato?

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: k4oso@...
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:38:54
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Hi Earl,
I think its called "Motto dotto con emotto".. :-)

# 1266. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:13:22 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1266

MOUNT HERMON!!!!!!!!!

All my family is from the 6th ward of St Helena!!!

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 18:52:55
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Earl, I am in Mount Hermon,LA About 40 miles North of Hammond Louisiana. You Are a ways away from my qth :-) And going the wrong way too hi hi. Milt, I like it, woodstock for bugs :-) who's gonna be Jimmi Hendrix with a vibroplex????

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Where r u Eric? I just left Alexandria headed for Lafayette.
>
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...>
> Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 17:35:32
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
> All Good comments guys, I like it :-). Kate, you might want to try and find an older model lightning Bug or champion. They will slow waayyy down for you, without extra weights or anything. You will like the extendadot though, they do work very well. I have a hard time with my bug when i try to check into the Louisiana slow net, i don't serve as ncs, so it's not a real issue, what milt said is true, slowing down, when you are used to going fast will effect the fist in a big way :-) I usually plug in a straight key and have at it. I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have

some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@> wrote:
> >
> > You folks are all so fortunate! I've been a ham for 27 yrs es hv 3 bugs but only 1 slow enuf 4 me hi ho es can't use in the truck cuz of ruf ride. Arm falls out of frame. Wish I cud use 1 mobile as I'm on the road so much.
> >
> > BlackBerry is like CW - abbreviate it all HI HI
> >
> > Vy 7 3
> > Earl
> >
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> > Posted via Blackberry
> >
>

# 1267. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:17:00 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1267

Uh -- I DID??? I don't remember saying it but I wish I had!

7 3
Earl
/M in Lafayette, La

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: k4oso@aol.com
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:46:10
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Earl wrote:
I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so much. 73'..

Earl , If you can make that happen, you will be a star in my book. We've been trying to encourage it for years now but, with no traction. Sure would be a blast if it ever happened though.....slow bugs, fast bugs..... It would be the SKCC version of Woodstock.
73, Milt k4oso

# 1268. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:38:04 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1268

Well, both names started with an E, and we are both in louisiana :-) close enough huh. FB on the st helena. Do you come down for the hammond hamfest in january? I'm always there, but i'm downstairs running the V.E. test session, it usually takes all my time, and i never get to go up and meet anyone :-) if you come to it, pop in the test session room, and give me a shout. I'll be the ugly one at the table playing with a bug and cpo HI HI..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Uh -- I DID??? I don't remember saying it but I wish I had!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
> /M in Lafayette, La
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: k4oso@...
> Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:46:10
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
> Earl wrote:
> I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i
> think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls
> this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I
> might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so
> much. 73'..
>
> Earl , If you can make that happen, you will be a star in my book. We've
> been trying to encourage it for years now but, with no traction. Sure
> would be a blast if it ever happened though.....slow bugs, fast bugs.....
> It would be the SKCC version of Woodstock.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>

# 1269. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:46:53 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1269

It's a bit far since I live in New Mexico HI!

Isn't the hamfest comping up pretty soon? Bob Priez sends me the SELARC bulletin & I think I saw something about it in there.

Perhaps we should try and see how many SKCC folks are also here and try to organize a "sub-event" during the WES or something.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 19:38:04
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Well, both names started with an E, and we are both in louisiana :-) close enough huh. FB on the st helena. Do you come down for the hammond hamfest in january? I'm always there, but i'm downstairs running the V.E. test session, it usually takes all my time, and i never get to go up and meet anyone :-) if you come to it, pop in the test session room, and give me a shout. I'll be the ugly one at the table playing with a bug and cpo HI HI..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Uh -- I DID??? I don't remember saying it but I wish I had!
>
> 7 3
> Earl
> /M in Lafayette, La
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: k4oso@...
> Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:46:10
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>

> Earl wrote:
> I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i
> think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls
> this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I
> might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so
> much. 73'..
>
> Earl , If you can make that happen, you will be a star in my book. We've
> been trying to encourage it for years now but, with no traction. Sure
> would be a blast if it ever happened though.....slow bugs, fast bugs.....
> It would be the SKCC version of Woodstock.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>

# 1270. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 19:53:06 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1270

Earl, the hamfest is in january, i can't call the date, it's coming up soon though. I just had Bob on the 2 meter a while ago, they are putting up a new machine for a secondary 2 meter, and a six meter setup :-).... Now for the Sub Event, maybe we can grab a weekend in between the skcc w.e.s. and the monthly s.k.s. and have some on air bug juice fun :-) Ragchew, exchange skcc nrs' help with w.a.s. anything goes.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> It's a bit far since I live in New Mexico HI!
>
> Isn't the hamfest comping up pretty soon? Bob Priez sends me the SELARC bulletin & I think I saw something about it in there.
>
> Perhaps we should try and see how many SKCC folks are also here and try to organize a "sub-event" during the WES or something.
>
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...>
> Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 19:38:04
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
> Well, both names started with an E, and we are both in louisiana :-) close enough huh. FB on the st helena. Do you come down for the hammond hamfest in january? I'm always there, but i'm downstairs running the V.E. test session, it usually takes all my time, and i never get to go up and meet anyone :-) if you come to it, pop in the test session room, and give me a shout. I'll be the ugly one at the table playing with a bug and cpo HI HI..
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@> wrote:
> >
> > Uh -- I DID??? I don't remember saying it but I wish I had!
> >
> > 7 3
> > Earl
> > /M in Lafayette, La
> >
> >
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham

> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> > Posted via Blackberry
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: k4oso@
> > Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 13:46:10
> > To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> > Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
> >
> > Earl wrote:
> > I would love to get a informal gathering of bugs on 40m some night, i
> > think we could have some fun with that :-) I hope to hear some of your calls
> > this weekend, during the SKCC w.e.s. i'll be playing on 20m, 40m, and 80m. I
> > might try some 10m, but not really interested in the 10 meter contest so
> > much. 73'..
> >
> > Earl , If you can make that happen, you will be a star in my book. We've
> > been trying to encourage it for years now but, with no traction. Sure
> > would be a blast if it ever happened though.....slow bugs, fast bugs.....
> > It would be the SKCC version of Woodstock.
> > 73, Milt k4oso
> >
>

# 1271. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 20:02:06 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1271

I'm thinking we should take our hamfest & St Helena talk to private email. I just received a notice that somebody unsubscribed. Sorry to see anybody go & I feel a bit guilty about possibly pushing them away.

Apologies,
Earl
Listowner

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1272. Re: [cw_bugs] Slow Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-10 23:26:42 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1272  Message: 1272

Hello Everybody,

The E.F. Johnson SpeedX, GHD, coffin bug and VK2DLF's OZ Bug are more easily slowed down than the Vibroplex. My OZ bug will slow to about 5 wpm with the weight sold with it.

SpeedX and coffin bugs are out of production and available at quite reasonable prices.
Steve, NU7T

# 1273. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 02:38:08 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1273

Earl,
I've been known to hooollllld onto a dash or two..hi hi
Milt

# 1274. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 02:41:48 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1274

Earl, I guess it was Holmseric that said that.....sorry
Milt

# 1275. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 02:46:24 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1247  Message: 1275

Now I might do that if I momentarily forgot I wasn't using a keyer ... Kate

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 6:38 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

>
>
> Earl,
> I've been known to hooollllld onto a dash or two..hi hi
> Milt
>
>
>

# 1276. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 04:33:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1276

Kate, I don't remember if you've said or not -- do you have a bug or two?

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: Kate Hutton <katehutton@...>
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 18:46:24
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Now I might do that if I momentarily forgot I wasn't using a keyer ... Kate

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 6:38 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

>
>
> Earl,
> I've been known to hooollllld onto a dash or two..hi hi
> Milt
>
>
>

# 1277. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 04:46:43 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1247  Message: 1277

Earl,

I have three - all rescued from swap meets. One works great, a 1972 Original, but needs the Extendadot - rather, I need the Extendad on the bug. HI HI. I also have a 1960-ish Champion, with a bug tamer - forgot what it is called, but the contacts probably need to be replaced. Recently got a 1940's Original which has been abused. Can't even adjust it right because one of the screws is bent. The core of a small collection, I suppose, if you stretch the definition of a collection.

I'm still using a straight key on the air, because I mess up too much with the bug. I've only been a ham for 10 months, so my CW isn't great. I've learned to use a keyer for the traffic slow net, for various reasons, such as keeping me to a steady pace. But my goal is to get decently competent with a bug.

Just like Eric, I wonder why they are so fascinating.

Kate

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 8:33 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:

>
>
> Kate, I don't remember if you've said or not -- do you have a bug or two?
>
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
> ---
> *From: * Kate Hutton <katehutton@...>
> *Date: *Thu, 10 Dec 2009 18:46:24 -0800
> *To: *<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Subject: *Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
>
>
> Now I might do that if I momentarily forgot I wasn't using a keyer ...
> Kate
>
> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 6:38 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:
>

```
>>
>>
>> Earl,
>> I've been known to hooollllld onto a dash or two..hi hi
>> Milt
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
```

# 1278. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 05:01:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1278

Wow, sounds like a nice group.

I'd suggest you call Vibroplex in the AM and order a replacement screw & perhaps contacts. I'm always nervous when a company changes hands, and I would want the parts in my hands right away just in case.

I have a Varispeed on my Presentation and that's the only reason I can use it! HI!

As for why they're so much fun -- in my case I just like old stuff. For example, I use a mug & brush when I shave. And Glen Miller's Tuxedo Junction is on the radio!

You're probably gonna be OK with the straight key for a bit. I'm no CW expert, but I've been around a while. Once you're comfortable copying code at the slowest speed one if your bugs will work, you might give it a go and see what happens. Remember that if it all starts to fall apart on you, just use the dah side by itself so you can get it all back together.

Les Brown was just on, and now Artie Shaw...

7 3 / 8 8
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: Kate Hutton <katehutton@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2009 20:46:43
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Earl,

I have three - all rescued from swap meets. One works great, a 1972 Original, but needs the Extendadot - rather, I need the Extendad on the bug. HI HI. I also have a 1960-ish Champion, with a bug tamer - forgot what it is called, but the contacts probably need to be replaced. Recently got a 1940's Original which has been abused. Can't even adjust it right because one of the screws is bent. The core of a small collection, I suppose, if you stretch the definition of a collection.

I'm still using a straight key on the air, because I mess up too much with the bug. I've only been a ham for 10 months, so my CW isn't great. I've learned to use a keyer for the traffic slow net, for various reasons, such as keeping me to a steady pace. But my goal is to get decently competent with a bug.

Just like Eric, I wonder why they are so fascinating.

Kate

On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 8:33 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@gmail.com> wrote:

>
>
> Kate, I don't remember if you've said or not -- do you have a bug or two?
>
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
> ----------
> *From: * Kate Hutton <katehutton@gmail.com>
> *Date: *Thu, 10 Dec 2009 18:46:24 -0800
> *To: *<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Subject: *Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
>
>
> Now I might do that if I momentarily forgot I wasn't using a keyer ...
> Kate
>
> On Thu, Dec 10, 2009 at 6:38 PM, <k4oso@aol.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Earl,
>> I've been known to hooollllld onto a dash or two..hi hi
>> Milt
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 1279. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 11:53:33 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1279

Earl, Maybe we can call our bug bunch the "Band" Reknown. Ha ha
Milt k4oso
In a message dated 12/11/2009 12:02:10 AM Eastern Standard Time,
earl.kd5xb@... writes:

Les Brown was just on, and now Artie Shaw...

7 3 / 8 8
Earl

# 1280. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 12:15:19 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1247  Message: 1280

Kate - and others who might not know about it:

There is a file in this group's "Files" section called "Secrets of Bug Success" which I wrote from many of my correspondence with others and from notes that I myself took from other amateur and professional telegraphers who used bugs.

There is a very good method of figuring out "WHY" your bug has scratchy contacts.

I just remembered another trick many used on radio: Attaching a capacitor across the keyline to eliminate contact bounce - some even used a resistor in parallel with this.

I am very sure that many will find the information in this file valuable as I did when I either figured it out for myself, or someone told me.

73

DR

# 1281. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 13:23:16 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1247  Message: 1281

If we were slow enough, and "ham-fisted" enough, we could be the Thundering Herd!

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: k4oso@...
Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 06:53:33
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Earl, Maybe we can call our bug bunch the "Band" Reknown. Ha ha
Milt k4oso
In a message dated 12/11/2009 12:02:10 AM Eastern Standard Time,
earl.kd5xb@... writes:

Les Brown was just on, and now Artie Shaw...

7 3 / 8 8
Earl

# 1282. Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 14:26:50 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1247  Message: 1282

Big Band + bug users= "Bug Band" :-) Vintage instruments, and maybe vintage radio too. My oldest cw rig is the heathkit hx1681 and hr 1680 set.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> If we were slow enough, and "ham-fisted" enough, we could be the Thundering Herd!
>
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: k4oso@...
> Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 06:53:33
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?
>
>
> Earl, Maybe we can call our bug bunch the "Band" Reknown. Ha ha
> Milt k4oso
> In a message dated 12/11/2009 12:02:10 AM Eastern Standard Time,
> earl.kd5xb@... writes:
>
> Les Brown was just on, and now Artie Shaw...
>
> 7 3 / 8 8
> Earl
>

# 1283. Care, Feeding and Sending with Bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 14:46:39 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1283  Message: 1283
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I mentioned in a recent message with a different subject line, the existance of a text file that I wrote in the "Files" section of this group.

For those who had difficulty in obtaining this file, I attach the contents of that file to this message.

73

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
Green Harbor, MA
USA

-30-

# 1284. Re: [cw_bugs] Care, Feeding and Sending with Bugs [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 15:01:30 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1283  Message: 1284

Here it is:

- Vibroplex Adjustment, Cleaning and Sending Technique -
by David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA

GOOD BUG SENDING TECHNIQUE

Your wrist is "rocked" with the same motion that you use when opening a door knob, the wrist and are lie on the desk and rock with that motion. The position in which you assume to use the bug would be just like you would grab a door knob or to receive a beverage bottle. You roll your wrist on the fleshy part of your hand back and forth. No finger movements at all!

Finger motions are not to be used as they give carpal tunnel syndrome (glass arm) the idea is to rock the wrist with a bug and cootie key. Unfortunately the paddle used with an electronic keyer must be tapped with fingers at high speeds :(

I know it might be silly to say this, but it is much easier to send when both feet are on the floor not angled to the left or right, but straight and senders body is straight and not turned. It is much easier - try it if you don't believe this.

BUG CLEANING

The following is time consuming but I find it always works and I do this routinely and it takes time but it saves time because it eliminates problems.

If your bug is old, take it completely apart and clean (especially) the contacting surfaces, including the underneath connecting strips (especially around the screws), the countersunk hole for the grounded binding post, the silver contacts, the surface where the U shaped dot spring contacts the vibrator, and the two beveled pins of the trunnion assembly (the pins on which the main lever pivots in the frame), and make sure that the cups into which the pins fit are clean of debris.

I use the cotton wadding with metal polish which is sold nationwide, and a stick pencil type eraser to clean the more stubborn parts and then use Flitz metal polish to finish the metal cleaning. If you have an ultrasonic cleaner (jewelry cleaner) put some ammonia and water in it, with a few drops of Dawn dish cleaner liquid and use for 15 minutes, then repeat with clean water. I dry everything in a toaster oven for 1 hour at 140 degrees F.l

A bug has to swing far enough to compress the U spring - it doesn't send like a paddle - you use your wrist - you shouldn't get tired with this key - if you are, your probably doing it incorrectly. The dash spacing and tension should be adjusted for reliable dashes.

See the "Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy" by N0HFF available several places and in several languages on the Internet for good advice on sending and general tips.

CONTACT ALIGNMENT

Old bugs have a screw which holds the lever against the trunnion post. This can be adjusted up and down. Later bugs do not, and the alignment of the dot contact and the dash contact must be done by adjusting the top and bottom trunnion screws. The bottom trunnion screw is held fast (and will strip unless this screw is loosened) by a screw on the rear side of the frame. You must use a long handled screw driver to get to this screw! Loosen this screw and you will be able to loosen and tighten the bottom trunnion screw and raise and lower the position of the lever.

The lever should be adjusted so that the height of the lever / mainspring / vibrator assembly is such that the contact on the U shaped dot spring is vertically aligned with the dot post contact.

The alignment of the dash contact can be done (after the above is done) by loosening the small contact plate and adjusting.

All final adjustments should be done so that the contacts are touching and completely aligned so that the contacts meet as fully and directly as possible.

DOT ADJUSTMENT

Bugs used for radiotelegraphy vs bugs used for landline telegraphy were set to approximately 60% of a VOM meter reading in resistance.

If your power is 1500 watts key down, it will still be 1500 watts on each dot closure - but the dots will give different meter ballistic movements different results - but rest assured they are still full power.

That being said, dots with a dot/space ratio of about 100:60 OR 1.67:1 will give better copy than dots with a 1:1 ratio during radio conditions on typical hf bands. Or instead of 1.00 to 1 - dots sound better about 1.5 to 1.67 to 1.

CONTACTS

If you buy some silver cleaner you can clean them. If you can find 1500 grit wet/dry sandpaper, you can smooth them out. You can also buy a burnishing tool from GC Electronics for $1.57 which is an extremely fine file that is about 1/4 inch wide and about 1/32 inch thick which was designed especially for that purpose. I use 800 grit wet/dry sandpaper (very lightly and with care) then 1500 grit wet/dry and finally I polish with Flitz metal polish which is a very very low grit polish;. The

contacts if done this way will come out like mirrors.

Vibroplex sells a contact cleaner that is a narrow long strip of fine crocus cloth folded back on itself and glued together. It works very nicely. You can make a bunch of them by taking a piece of contact paper, folding it in half, then putting rubber cement (from Office Supply store or bike shop) and putting a heavy large book on it until it dries. Cut into 1/2 inch strips the narrow way. To use hold the contacts together with your hands (be very careful of the fragile dot contact spring!) and rub in and out by drawing and pushing the strip through the held closed contacts.

Metal polishing the contacts. Simachrome is nice, but Flitz is much better. I have a brass based Scotia paddle that I hand polished to a mirror finish with Flitz two years ago. It is a mirror and it is as golden as the day I polished it - which is simply amazing. Flitz has an anti-corrosive in it.

You MUST clean the contact after using polish and it is recommended that you clean it after using a Vibroplex cleaning strip. I use isopropal alcohol 91% for this as water around a Vibroplex is not nice as it can creep into where it will rust the base or screws.

I bought a 5% spray De-Oxit as an experiment as it was quite costly. It so impressed me that I bought the 100% pure product (even more costly but per "unit" of percent, much cheaper. I swear by it. The contasts last nearly *forever* but being near salt water (800 feet) they do go bad within six months.

BUG ADJUSTMENT

Old-timers insisted upon sizable gaps. In fact, a significant gap for the dit lever moved against a significant spring resistance sets up a good vibration of the mainspring for producing dits and avoiding scratchy and bouncing dots.

The limit screw adjustment for the damper is adjusted just so the end of the swinging pendulum contacts the damper. The bug is also quieter when the damper doesn't move as dramatically.

The dot spring will have more tension than you might be accustomed to. The spring tension returns the lever after sending dots quickly and it also makes the lever move with more force which sets up a stronger impact on the dot spring which results in much stronger and less problematic dots. This is the cure for poor dots if the contacts and the other connections are clean.

The trunnion screws (they hold the lever and allow it to swing) should NOT be lubricated. Lubrication of such a small bearing causes more problems than help. It attracts dirt, dander and dust, and on some keys that have been "oiled" the lubricant had gotten between the main lever and the dash lever. This sticky residue causes the levers to

stick when the dash lever is used. This problem is much more common than most people realize! Clean off the lubrication with ammonia then water and let dry for a few hours before reassembling. Moisture will weld your screws to the frame when the water turns iron to rust!

Also take a strand of stranded wire or a pin and clean out the trunnion screw cavity. I use a cheap ultrasonic cleaner with ammonia or Formula 409 to degrease and clean. I usually follow up with another 5 minutes of water and Dawn dish detergent then five more minutes with just water. Dry for a few hours and reassemble.

When tightening the trunnion screws, they should be adjusted with the key set wide so you can feel the drag. If the lever drags no matter what, it is rough and should be smoothed with 600 then 800 then 3000 grit wet/dry sandpaper (or other) and tried again. The correct adjustment is the best of "minimum up and down play with minimum drag" - when adjusted correctly, the lever will move slightly up and down as if it is tightened too much it will bind.

HARD TO FIND PROBLEMS

When you have bad dots, the hard to diagnose problems that I've routinely found are: The terminal connectors are loose and the round cylinder shaped nut is not holding the base tightly when the bug sends dots the contact is intermittent. The dot spring is loose on the vibrating arm. When the contacts crash, the spring conducts intermittently. Similar happens for all the contact path on the connecting straps - if one is loose or corroded, it will produce poor dots.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
Former Commercial Radiotelegrapher

# 1285. How to Clean "Bug" Electrical Contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 16:10:19 UTC
From: Ya`akov
Topic: 1285  Message: 1285

I was taught many, many years ago to clean contacts on my "Bug" by pulling a piece of writing paper between the contacts, while they were closed with my fingers clamping the paper. This method is non-abrasive, it is easy to do, and works very well.

73 de Yakov, VE7ALQ - Same Callsign since 1969, Fist #11117

http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibros.jpg

http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibrog.jpg

# 1286. Re: [cw_bugs] How to Clean "Bug" Electrical Contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 17:14:38 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1285  Message: 1286

Happy holiday wishes to all for a Happy Hannukah! - חמש הכונח!
and a Merry Christmas etc.

Hello Ya`akov,

This is what is needed for cleaning  In the USA a new dollar bill is excellent although a $100 dollar bill is more impressive.
Just use the margin where ink is not printed.

USA currency (and most countries) is made of the finest cotton paper rolled very thin.

High quality 100% cotton bond paper can also be used to excellent results, but poorer quality sulfate bond and "copy" and "printer" paper often leave residues of solvents.

Besides cleaning, often contacts require polishing, or if the contacts were damaged by abuse or high current arcing and had become pitted and uneven, resurfacing and final polishing is needed.

One person whom I know suggested (and I've tried it) using a Dremel type rotory tool with a cotton tip,  Using it on the contacts naturally results in the desired contact shape - a slight convex dome - similar to what a freshly baked pie from the oven looks like. Convex means that the center is higher and the edges are lower.  This type of contact (both sides MUST be done) permits the contacts to meet ONLY at one place and minimizes sparking and mechanical contact bounce, although the semi-automatic being a spring contact, it does not eliminate contact bounce.

In the article I sent earlier, I mention several methods of saving contacts without resorting to purchasing new ones.  I've only had ONE pair of contacts which ever needed replacement.  They had been filed very thin.

Use of a very very fine file is fine - that's exactly what a "Burnishing Tool" is.  This type of file is so smooth that you cannot feel any ridges or even see them without magnification.  Some burnishing tools are ribbed and some are just "speckled" - both work equally well - although it is a good idea to rotate the burnisher axially around the contact to ensure that the contact surface is more uniform.  Using this type of "grit" or fineness of the burnishing file means that very little silver is removed.

Unfortunately, there are some pitted contacts that require faster removal of the imperfections.  For this judicious use of a courser machinists (jewelers) file is needed - or as in my file some 800 grit

wet dry "sand paper" or even better please use crocus cloth.  Readers will gather the constraint of my words and why I do not wish to remark that I have indeed used 100 grit wet/dry paper in severe cases, because if used in the wrong way this fast removal will remove too much silver or make the contact irregular and require too much rework to use again - which would prudently require a replacement rather than spending several hours (or more) on correcting the damage that a heavy file or paper would cause.

Vibroplex sells strips of crocus cloth which they have folded over and glued, then cut into strips.  You can make your own for less than two dollars by buying rubber cement, and rouge cloth, gluing the unfinished back of the crocus cloth, then folding it unfinished side to unfinished side the LONG way, then cutting it into 3/4 or 1/2 inch strips with scissors.

If you haven't done this before, don't be afraid to use crocus cloth - especially the strips I have just described.  If you use them often, two strokes of the strip is all that is needed, if you have never used them five or maybe ten (and yes, I've done more ) - I've never seen damage been done with crocus cloth strips - but I'm sure that of of our determined brethren could manage it after a few hours turned into days of deliberate misuse of the strips.

73

DR

-30-

# 1287. Re: [cw_bugs] How to Clean "Bug" Electrical Contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-11 17:53:56 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1285  Message: 1287

Yep Yakov,
It works like a charm!!
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 12/11/2009 11:11:06 AM Eastern Standard Time,
ve7alq@... writes:

I was taught many, many years ago to clean contacts on my
"Bug" by pulling a piece of writing paper between the
contacts, while they were closed with my fingers clamping
the paper. This method is non-abrasive, it is easy to do,
and works very well.

73 de Yakov, VE7ALQ - Same Callsign since 1969, Fist #11117

# 1288. contact "bounce"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-12 15:48:11 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1288  Message: 1288

Also known as "scratchy dits." Were this my only problem, hi hi.

DR alludes to a capacitor across the bug. It all depends upon what you are keying. I discovered that my problem was less contact bounce, and more the rig, that is, new solid state rigs can be capable of actually trying to follow extremely brief contact bounce, or perhaps it is only a change in resistance as one contact face is dragged across the other.

In ANY case, and I don't know how a cathode keyed tube radio might respond, I have completely eliminated the problem by plugging placing in the order of two MFD (dates me, eh?) across the key. I don't have this on every key, but rather on the cable goping to the rig, so that no matter what bug I plug in, it will have the caps across it.

Incidentally, another idea for you; I make and mount jacks on my bugs. I take a piece of perf board, and mount a jack on it. I put holes for the binding posts, and mount the perf board across the binding posts. Each bug has its jack. A cable comes from the rig with a male plug on it, so i can exchange keys at any time and the added bonus, no key has a cable dangling from it. I have two straight keys and 12 bugs set up this way.

73, Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com

Summitseeking.blogspot.com

# 1289. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-12 16:02:20 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1247  Message: 1289

Earl,

I like old stuff too.. I collect old books... bugs... insulators...

I too use a mug brush when shaving.. I actually want to get an old razor too..

I am weird.. :)

Jason N8XE

Earl Needham wrote:
>
>
> Wow, sounds like a nice group.
>
> I'd suggest you call Vibroplex in the AM and order a replacement screw
> perhaps contacts. I'm always nervous when a company changes hands, and
> I would want the parts in my hands right away just in case.
>
> I have a Varispeed on my Presentation and that's the only reason I can
> use it! HI!
>
> As for why they're so much fun -- in my case I just like old stuff.
> For example, I use a mug brush when I shave. And Glen Miller's Tuxedo
> Junction is on the radio!
>
> You're probably gonna be OK with the straight key for a bit. I'm no CW
> expert, but I've been around a while. Once you're comfortable copying
> code at the slowest speed one if your bugs will work, you might give
> it a go and see what happens. Remember that if it all starts to fall
> apart on you, just use the dah side by itself so you can get it all
> back together.
>
> Les Brown was just on, and now Artie Shaw...
>
> 7 3 / 8 8
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> ---
> _._,___

# 1290. contact "bounce"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-12 16:47:59 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1288  Message: 1290

Good stuff Fred,
I'd like to see pic of your perf board thing. I have some scratchiness
and since it just started and is not bug specific I have begun to think its
the rig (IC-703 Plus).
Thanks, es Happy Holidays!
Milt k4oso
PS: Won't be long now By the way, I have copied your maroon Racer.
Soon to be applying the pin stripes. How far from the ends/sides do you put
them? I can estimate but would also like to be "politically correct"...hi hi

# 1291. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-12 16:51:15 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1247  Message: 1291

Then you'll have to learn to hone it, strop it, and trickiest of all...use it! Good luck, and remember the styptic pencil and toilet tissue trick.
:-)
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 12/12/2009 11:02:35 AM Eastern Standard Time, jhissong@... writes:

I actually want to get an old razor too..

I am weird.. :)

Jason N8XE

# 1292. Re: [skcc] Progress!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-12 23:19:43 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1292  Message: 1292

Wow, Kate, that's fantastic! Congratulations!

7 3 / 8 8
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: Kate Hutton <katehutton@...>
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 15:08:22
To: <skcc@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [skcc] Progress!

Just made my best attempt at the West Coast Code Proficiency Qualifying Run. Got almost all of the 15 WPM message & maybe a long enough string in a row for a 20 WPM endorsement! We'll see what they say.

Bands really stink this weekend. Could just barely hear K6KPN on 20 m. Had to go to 40 m. In broad daylight! There is a small sunspot group, too.

Kate KD6HTN

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

# 1293. for Milt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-13 15:34:50 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1293  Message: 1293

Congrats on your fun in restoration, Milt!

The maroon bug you are copying is not a Racer. It is a Standard Radio bug from WW II. It was a special order of the Army Air Corps, and is a very scarce key. It came in many base finishes. The gold lines on the Std Radio bug were always quite far in, and did not include the little filigrees of the Vibroplex bugs, a style that dated all the way back into the 1800's.

On Vibroplex bugs, the distance from the edge varied widely. I have seen them as close as a quarter inch to the edge on thin-based bugs made in NorCross, GA. On the Stda Radio bug they were 7/8 of inch in.

Most typically I think the lines were in the order of 5/8 inch in.

Scratchi-dits... Some of the new rigs are very sensitive not only to trying to follow incredibly small gaps in contacts rubbing across the face of one another, but also, we have found internal keyer to lose the instruction from paddles when the contacts on the paddle simply conduct with a little resistance in the circuit, like one ohm. We found that if we changed the Begali contacts from tungsten to gold, the "mistakes" disappeared. You could hold the tungsten closed and watch an ohm meter flicker around, always below about 1.2 ohms, but that seemed to cause the radio's internal keyer to make mistakes. Think what the oxidation on silver contacts on a bug would do! A big loaded up cap seems to fix it.

73 - Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com
Summitseeking.blogspot.com

# 1294. Re: [cw_bugs] for Milt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-13 16:03:15 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1293  Message: 1294

That makes 32 to 42... :-)

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "cloud runner" <KT5X@CYBERMESA.COM>
Date: Sun, 13 Dec 2009 08:34:50
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] for Milt

Congrats on your fun in restoration, Milt!

The maroon bug you are copying is not a Racer. It is a Standard Radio bug from WW II. It was a special order of the Army Air Corps, and is a very scarce key. It came in many base finishes. The gold lines on the Std Radio bug were always quite far in, and did not include the little filigrees of the Vibroplex bugs, a style that dated all the way back into the 1800's.

On Vibroplex bugs, the distance from the edge varied widely. I have seen them as close as a quarter inch to the edge on thin-based bugs made in NorCross, GA. On the Stda Radio bug they were 7/8 of inch in.

Most typically I think the lines were in the order of 5/8 inch in.

Scratchi-dits... Some of the new rigs are very sensitive not only to trying to follow incredibly small gaps in contacts rubbing across the face of one another, but also, we have found internal keyer to lose the instruction from paddles when the contacts on the paddle simply conduct with a little resistance in the circuit, like one ohm. We found that if we changed the Begali contacts from tungsten to gold, the "mistakes" disappeared. You could hold the tungsten closed and watch an ohm meter flicker around, always below about 1.2 ohms, but that seemed to cause the radio's internal keyer to make mistakes. Think what the oxidation on silver contacts on a bug would do! A big loaded up cap seems to fix it.

73 - Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com
Summitseeking.blogspot.com

# 1295. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: what makes bugs so fun?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-13 22:53:40 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1247  Message: 1295

The best hone for a straight razor is found in woodworking shop - one of those white ceramic stones.  Very high grit.

Just remember NEVER shave against the growth of the beard with a straight razor (don't shave in the direction you can feel the bear) otherwise, you will have a red face.

I cried when they discontinued Palmolive Lather (not the "Brushless")- it was excellent - now I have to import it from Europe - it is still made in Belgium - and that one has Palm Oil (as in Palm-Olive) which the cheap USA product lacked (sadly).  The Belgium PalmOlive Lather is much better than the old USA stuff.

I shave with straight (open razor) razor made with Solingen steel - no more tortoise handles thought - save the turtles!

:-)

DR

On Sat, Dec 12, 2009 at 4:51 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
>
> Then you'll have to learn to hone it, strop it, and trickiest of all...use it!  Good luck, and remember the styptic pencil and toilet tissue trick. :-)
> Milt k4oso
>
> In a message dated 12/12/2009 11:02:35 AM Eastern Standard Time, jhissong@gmail.com writes:
>
> I actually want to get an old razor
> too..
>
> I am weird.. :)
>
> Jason N8XE
>
>
>
>

# 1296. new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 19:42:50 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1296

I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?

tnx es 73,
Bob
K6UJ

# 1297. Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 20:37:20 UTC
From: Troy Wideman
Topic: 1296  Message: 1297

Bob,
I always use RG-174 with mine. It's small, light, and I've never had a problem with it. Tried mike cable in the past and never cared much for the types I was using, so switched to the coax.
73,
Troy, W6HV

---
From: "RobertH" <k6uj@...>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 11:42 AM
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?

I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun! Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?

tnx es 73,
Bob
K6UJ

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1298. new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 20:46:25 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 1296  Message: 1298

Hi Bob,

I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
http://www.radiodaze.com/

Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
original cabling did.

I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
soft depending on the insulation qualities.

--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 1299. Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 21:53:45 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1296  Message: 1299

I like the old cloth covered stuff, but it can be hard to find.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "RobertH" <k6uj@pacbell.net>
Date: Tue, 15 Dec 2009 19:42:50
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?

I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?

tnx es 73,
Bob
K6UJ

# 1300. Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 22:22:28 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1296  Message: 1300

Cord and Wedge cable was sometimes made from tinsel wire and sometimes just a pair of rubber coated wires in woven cover. Some times the color of the cloth covering was black, brown, gold or green. The Vibroplex green cloth for some reason remains very green even after being over 50 years old.

Check out places that have telephone and radio reproduction materials - the problem with tinsel wire is that it is nearly impossible to solder to - in headsets little ends of metal were used at one end - they were smaller than a kernel of popcorn - and they fit into the bottom of most headsets - Trimm used them. The other end of the tinsel wire would be fitted with a "headphone pin" which would either be inserted in a Fhanstock connector or most 'phone plugs of the time (and some even now - especially the larger ones) had a beveled V and a holding machine screw to affix the pins within the shell of the 'phone plug. Switchcraft probably still makes them this way in both the right angle type and "straight" type.

Someone recently (Fred) KT5X) mentioned affixing a jack with printed circuit board material to each key and using a cable with two plugs on it to patch your key into your transmitter.

Telephone cord used for handsets would be exactly suitable for use with a cord and wedge.

73

DR

On Tue, Dec 15, 2009 at 3:46 PM, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
> Hi Bob,
>
> I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> http://www.radiodaze.com/
>
> Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> original cabling did.
>
> I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> soft depending on the insulation qualities.

>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1301. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-15 22:41:06 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1296  Message: 1301

Cloth covered cable for a bug. I use guitar cords from my favorite music store. I buy a 12 foot long cord or six foot one, then get the mono ends and make my cables from that. sometimes radio shack will have a nice yellow tweed guitar cord, but mostly they have purple :-0

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Bob,
>
> I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> http://www.radiodaze.com/
>
> Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> original cabling did.
>
> I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> soft depending on the insulation qualities.
>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>

# 1302. Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 01:26:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1296  Message: 1302

Donald Kemp wrote:
>
>
> Hi Bob,
>
> I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> http://www.radiodaze.com/ <http://www.radiodaze.com/>
>
> Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> original cabling did.
>
> I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> soft depending on the insulation qualities.
>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>
Take a look at this one -- unfortunately the guy wants a bit much
for it -- <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230353984994>

Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1303. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 03:52:15 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1303

Never thought of using the mini coax, would be a nice small diameter too, I'll check it out. tnx Troy

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Troy Wideman" <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> Bob,
> I always use RG-174 with mine. It's small, light, and I've never had a
> problem with it. Tried mike cable in the past and never cared much for the
> types I was using, so switched to the coax.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> ---
> From: "RobertH" <k6uj@...>
> Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 11:42 AM
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?
>
> I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only
> CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi.
> I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly
> acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never
> been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta
> loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
> Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
> I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was
> thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe
> small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?
>
> tnx es 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

# 1304. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 03:52:32 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1304

Never thought of using the mini coax, would be a nice small diameter too, I'll check it out. tnx Troy

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Troy Wideman" <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> Bob,
> I always use RG-174 with mine. It's small, light, and I've never had a
> problem with it. Tried mike cable in the past and never cared much for the
> types I was using, so switched to the coax.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> ---
> From: "RobertH" <k6uj@...>
> Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 11:42 AM
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?
>
> I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only
> CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi.
> I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly
> acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never
> been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta
> loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
> Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
> I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was
> thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe
> small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?
>
> tnx es 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

# 1305. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 03:57:19 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1305

Yeah I do too, several others have pointed out some possibilities on where to find some. That cable would sure look on the bug!

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> I like the old cloth covered stuff, but it can be hard to find.
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "RobertH" <k6uj@...>
> Date: Tue, 15 Dec 2009 19:42:50
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?
>
> I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
> Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
> I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?
>
> tnx es 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>

# 1306. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 03:54:54 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1306

The original fabric covered cable would be super, didn't think that was possible to get now, I'll investigate the Radio Daze stuff. tnx Don

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Bob,
>
> I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> http://www.radiodaze.com/
>
> Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> original cabling did.
>
> I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> soft depending on the insulation qualities.
>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>

# 1307. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 03:59:08 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1307

tnx DR, wow, I am getting educated from you guys !

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Cord and Wedge cable was sometimes made from tinsel wire and sometimes
> just a pair of rubber coated wires in woven cover. Some times the
> color of the cloth covering was black, brown, gold or green. The
> Vibroplex green cloth for some reason remains very green even after
> being over 50 years old.
>
> Check out places that have telephone and radio reproduction materials
> - the problem with tinsel wire is that it is nearly impossible to
> solder to - in headsets little ends of metal were used at one end -
> they were smaller than a kernel of popcorn - and they fit into the
> bottom of most headsets - Trimm used them. The other end of the
> tinsel wire would be fitted with a "headphone pin" which would either
> be inserted in a Fhanstock connector or most 'phone plugs of the time
> (and some even now - especially the larger ones) had a beveled V and a
> holding machine screw to affix the pins within the shell of the 'phone
> plug. Switchcraft probably still makes them this way in both the
> right angle type and "straight" type.
>
> Someone recently (Fred) KT5X) mentioned affixing a jack with printed
> circuit board material to each key and using a cable with two plugs on
> it to patch your key into your transmitter.
>
> Telephone cord used for handsets would be exactly suitable for use
> with a cord and wedge.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> On Tue, Dec 15, 2009 at 3:46 PM, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
> > Hi Bob,
> >
> > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > http://www.radiodaze.com/
> >
> > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > original cabling did.

> >
> > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> >
> > --
> > 73,
> > Don, NN8B
> >
> >
> > ----------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1308. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 04:01:51 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1308

I had considered audio cable but not guitar cable, interesting, sounds like it is cloth covered too, thanks for the info !

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...> wrote:
>
> Cloth covered cable for a bug. I use guitar cords from my favorite music store. I buy a 12 foot long cord or six foot one, then get the mono ends and make my cables from that. sometimes radio shack will have a nice yellow tweed guitar cord, but mostly they have purple :-0
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@> wrote:
> >
> > Hi Bob,
> >
> > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > http://www.radiodaze.com/
> >
> > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > original cabling did.
> >
> > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> >
> > --
> > 73,
> > Don, NN8B
> >
>

# 1309. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 04:07:51 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1309

Thanks to everyone for the responses to my bug cable supply search. Got some great ideas and learned a little too !

tnx es 73,
Bob
K6UJ

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "RobertH" <k6uj@...> wrote:
>
> I had considered audio cable but not guitar cable, interesting, sounds like it is cloth covered too, thanks for the info !
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@> wrote:
> >
> > Cloth covered cable for a bug. I use guitar cords from my favorite music store. I buy a 12 foot long cord or six foot one, then get the mono ends and make my cables from that. sometimes radio shack will have a nice yellow tweed guitar cord, but mostly they have purple :-0
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@> wrote:
> > >
> > > Hi Bob,
> > >
> > > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > > http://www.radiodaze.com/
> > >
> > > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > > original cabling did.
> > >
> > > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> > >
> > > --
> > > 73,
> > > Don, NN8B
> > >
> >
>

# 1310. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 04:04:31 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1310

Earl, Looks like the original cable alright, can't tell from his picture but it looks badly frayed in the middle. Of course getting an original cord with wedge a guy can't be too choosy, hi,hi. Thanks for the lead!

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Donald Kemp wrote:
> >
> >
> > Hi Bob,
> >
> > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > http://www.radiodaze.com/ <http://www.radiodaze.com/>
> >
> > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > original cabling did.
> >
> > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> >
> > --
> > 73,
> > Don, NN8B
> >
> Take a look at this one -- unfortunately the guy wants a bit much
> for it -- <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230353984994>
>
> Earl
>
> --
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
>

# 1311. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 04:20:47 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1296  Message: 1311

Robert, I have a wedge cord from a 1929 lightning bug. It's yours if you want it. I will have to ask you to pay shipping for it though. A small flat rate box from u.s.p.s. cost $4.95 I have never used this cord, so i cant say if it's broken or not, i took it off the bug as soon as i got it, because i have my own cable setup here. My info is on qrz.com KE5PWL

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "RobertH" <k6uj@...> wrote:
>
> Earl, Looks like the original cable alright, can't tell from his picture but it looks badly frayed in the middle. Of course getting an original cord with wedge a guy can't be too choosy, hi,hi. Thanks for the lead!
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@> wrote:
> >
> > Donald Kemp wrote:
> > >
> > >
> > > Hi Bob,
> > >
> > > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > > http://www.radiodaze.com/ <http://www.radiodaze.com/>
> > >
> > > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > > original cabling did.
> > >
> > > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> > >
> > > --
> > > 73,
> > > Don, NN8B
> > >
> > Take a look at this one -- unfortunately the guy wants a bit much
> > for it -- <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230353984994>
> >
> > Earl
> >
> > --
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham

> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> >
>

# 1312. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 04:28:07 UTC
From: w8dx
Topic: 1296  Message: 1312

You might consider Antique Electronics Supply in Phoenix.
www.tubesandmore.com
They have 1920's brown cloth covered wire at $1.22 a foot.
Harvey, W8DX

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "RobertH" <k6uj@...> wrote:
>
> Earl, Looks like the original cable alright, can't tell from his picture but it looks badly frayed in the middle. Of course getting an original cord with wedge a guy can't be too choosy, hi,hi. Thanks for the lead!
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@> wrote:
> >
> > Donald Kemp wrote:
> > >
> > >
> > > Hi Bob,
> > >
> > > I really like the old original bug wedge wire that is fabric covered.
> > > The wire is very flexible and there is a strain relief string in it
> > > to tie off to the bug. Unfortunately finding this wire may be
> > > a problem today. Sometimes old wedge cables show up on Ebay
> > > or you could try some of the fabric covered wire at "Radio Daze".
> > > http://www.radiodaze.com/ <http://www.radiodaze.com/>
> > >
> > > Don't know how supple it is but would look more like the old
> > > original cabling did.
> > >
> > > I usually end up using a 6 ft. audio cable and cutting
> > > it in half. Get it with either the 1/8" phone plug or the
> > > phono connector depending on your rig. They are fairly
> > > soft depending on the insulation qualities.
> > >
> > > --
> > > 73,
> > > Don, NN8B
> > >
> > Take a look at this one -- unfortunately the guy wants a bit much
> > for it -- <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=230353984994>
> >
> > Earl
> >
> > --
> > KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> > Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk

> > http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> > Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> >
>

# 1313. Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 11:01:28 UTC
From: Michael Shelly
Topic: 1296  Message: 1313

Try Radiodze.com
Mike
WB2KKI

---
From: Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tue, December 15, 2009 4:53:45 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?

I like the old cloth covered stuff, but it can be hard to find.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups. yahoo.com/ group/cw_ bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

---

From: "RobertH" <k6uj@pacbell. net>
Date: Tue, 15 Dec 2009 19:42:50 -0000
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?

I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?

tnx es 73,
Bob
K6UJ

# 1314. Re: new cable?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-16 18:48:24 UTC
From: RobertH
Topic: 1296  Message: 1314

Radiodaze.com does indeed have some nice cloth covered stuff ! tnx Mike

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Michael Shelly <wb2kki@...> wrote:
>
> Try Radiodze.com
> Mike
> WB2KKI
>
>
>
>
> _____
> From: Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Tue, December 15, 2009 4:53:45 PM
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] new cable?
>
> Â
> I like the old cloth covered stuff, but it can be hard to find.
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups. yahoo.com/ group/cw_ bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
> _____
>
> From: "RobertH" <k6uj@pacbell. net>
> Date: Tue, 15 Dec 2009 19:42:50 -0000
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups .com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] new cable?
> Â
> I am new to the group. Wanted to check in and say hello. I operate only CW, I do have a desk mike for my FT1000, but it is covered with dust, hi,hi. I have a few bugs, my most used are my old Vibroplex original and a newly acquired blue racer. Been a ham since 1959 and until recently have never been on 160. I was delighted to discover I could load up my 80 meter delta loop on 160 using my tuner. Not the best but it works and I am having fun!
> Have a question for the group. What is a good cable for our bugs ?
> I want to replace several of mine, they have plastic insulation, I was thinking along the lines of a nice flexible soft rubber insulation, maybe small mike cable ? What do you use and like ?
>

> tnx es 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>

# 1315. Looking for a "Bug Tamer" for my Blue Racer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-23 04:09:16 UTC
From: billykatzz
Topic: 1315  Message: 1315

Hey, does anybody have one of those Vibroplex Vari-speed attachments for the rod-style swing arms that they might want to sell? Seems like the only Vari-speed that Vibroplex offers is for the flat arm Lightning bugs.

Bill, KJ6CVO
(currently studying for my Extra)

# 1316. Re: [cw_bugs] Looking for a "Bug Tamer" for my Blue Racer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-23 05:43:50 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1315  Message: 1316

Even though Vibroplex is unable to provide the Vari-Speed, there is a competitor which makes a device for both the flat vibrator keys and the round vibrator keys: See http://www.extendadot.com/

<http://www.extendadot.com/>73

David N1EA
-30-

On Tue, Dec 22, 2009 at 11:09 PM, billykatzz <rsilvercat@...>wrote:

> Hey, does anybody have one of those Vibroplex Vari-speed attachments for
> the rod-style swing arms that they might want to sell? Seems like the only
> Vari-speed that Vibroplex offers is for the flat arm Lightning bugs.
>
> Bill, KJ6CVO
> (currently studying for my Extra)
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1317. Re: Looking for a "Bug Tamer" for my Blue Racer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-24 01:19:11 UTC
From: billykatzz
Topic: 1315  Message: 1317

Thanks to everyone who responded to my post, either online or via Email. It gives me a warm feeling about the members of this group. Thanks, Milt, K4OSO, for your generous offers.

Ted, K8AQM, was kind enough to direct me to Norm of normsfab.com, and also sent me some pictures of Norm's device. I was so impressed, I called Norm directly and ordered one right on the spot.

If the "bug tamer" works as expected, I'm sure I'll be contacting Norm for a second one for my 1933-era Blue Racer. Thanks again to all and Happy Holidays!

Bill, KJ6CVO
Pasadena, CA (just days away from the parade!)

# 1318. NAQCC Special mW Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-28 16:33:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1318  Message: 1318

This coming Wednesday evening will be the Special NAQCC mW Sprint.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint200912_special.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a special sprint, for the month of December, that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate, even QRO!

Certificates: For 1st and 2nd highest scoring members.

Prize: A book of ham radio related cartoons donated by our NAQCC Newsletter cartoonist Dick W9CBT.

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1319. Getting the "Bugs" Out...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-31 22:41:51 UTC
From: Яков Malak ben Avraham ירבעה
Topic: 1315  Message: 1319

Just got my "Keynote" from the CW "Fists" Club, on 31-December-2009
Nice glossy cover, an article on a "left" handed bug, plus lots more. I
hope
to have a functional vertical antenna on the roof again soon, and expect to
be active, particularly on 30 meters and 40 meters CW running 100 watts.
I have two Vibroplex "bugs", the first one I had was the "deluxe chromed"

http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibros.jpg

and one that I recently bought, the "gold original" that I have connected

http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibrog.jpg

I know how to use them well in English and Russian, but have not (yet)
learned Hebrew Morse Code. (Will G-d ever give me the opportunity?)

http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/hebrew.gif

Maybe I should explore the world of digital Morse communications, as
it apparently requires very little bandwidth or power?

73 de Yakov, VE7ALQ - Same callsign since 1969, Fist #11117

--
web site http://www.ynet.co.il <== Hebrew language news site.
web site http://www.newsru.co.il <== Russian language news site.
web site http://www.yaakov.ca <== My home site. Many links...

# 1320. Re: [cw_bugs] Getting the "Bugs" Out...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2009-12-31 22:48:15 UTC
From: Jason Hissong
Topic: 1315  Message: 1320

I will be using my 1935 Martin Junior tonight and tomorrow.

Looking forward to the fun!!

Jason N8XE

Яаков Malak ben Avraham ירבעה wrote:
>
>
> Just got my "Keynote" from the CW "Fists" Club, on 31-December-2009
> Nice glossy cover, an article on a "left" handed bug, plus lots more. I
> hope
> to have a functional vertical antenna on the roof again soon, and
> expect to
> be active, particularly on 30 meters and 40 meters CW running 100 watts.
> I have two Vibroplex "bugs", the first one I had was the "deluxe chromed"
>
> http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibros.jpg
> <http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibros.jpg>
>
> and one that I recently bought, the "gold original" that I have connected
>
> http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibrog.jpg
> <http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/vibrog.jpg>
>
> I know how to use them well in English and Russian, but have not (yet)
> learned Hebrew Morse Code. (Will G-d ever give me the opportunity?)
>
> http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/hebrew.gif
> <http://members.shaw.ca/yehudi2/hebrew.gif>
>
> Maybe I should explore the world of digital Morse communications, as
> it apparently requires very little bandwidth or power?
>
> 73 de Yakov, VE7ALQ - Same callsign since 1969, Fist #11117
>
> --
> web site http://www.ynet.co.il <http://www.ynet.co.il> <== Hebrew
> language news site.
> web site http://www.newsru.co.il <http://www.newsru.co.il> <== Russian
> language news site.
> web site http://www.yaakov.ca <http://www.yaakov.ca> <== My home site.
> Many links...
>
>

# 1321. VHF/UHV FM CHAT IN ARIZONA

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-02 03:07:31 UTC
From: SailSouth4Fun@aol.com
Topic: 1321  Message: 1321

I know I have tried this before with no luck so I'm
going to give it one more try. Are there any CW
fans in any group for that matter that live in
the greater Phoenix, Az. area or surrounding areas
that would like to get together on VHF/UHF repeater
to chat about our love for CW? There are repeaters
that cover vast areas that it doesn't matter if you
live in southern Az or northern Az we can find a
frequency or two that would work for most people.
I think it would be kind of fun. From the lack of
interest the last time I tried this I think I'm the only
one that thinks this. Anyway, if your interested please
mail me direct at _SailSouth4Fun@..._ (mailto:SailSouth4Fun@...)
and we
can see if we can figure something out. If this try
takes a dump I will scrap the idea. Thanks for your
consideration concerning this idea. 73 & Ciao...Gary...

Gary W. Froemming, CTC
Certified Travel Counselor
Glendale, Arizona, USA
WB7CAG / W7GWF
33.56016N / 112.18416W
Grid Square: DM33vn74vk
---
GLENDALE ARC MEMBER # 1
SKCC # 4360T : Tribune # 211
FISTS # 11904, 10-10 # 12753
W7GWF SKCC # 5494
NAQCC # 2694
FLYING PIG QRP # 2035
QRP-ARCI # 13321
AK-QRP GROUP # 771
MQFD GROUP: Member
QRP-CANADA: Member
AZ ScQRPions: Member

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things
that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines.
Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails.
Explore. Dream. Discover."

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many
of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome,
charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating
in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

# 1322. Autronic Parts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-05 21:19:38 UTC
From: Gary Harmon
Topic: 1322  Message: 1322

I need one of the little chrome thumb screw covers for an Autronic paddle.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK
6003 Archwood
San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
210.657.1549h
210.884.6926c

"Retirement means everyday is a Saturday except Sunday."

# 1323. SKCC Members here??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-09 03:57:01 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1323  Message: 1323

Hello to all...

Thanks for accepting my request to join.

I've been a 99% CW man for sometime and I'm looking forward to reading some your stories and thoughts concerning bugs.

I have a small collection and it could be said, "I've been bitten by the bug"...

1932 Lightning (black crystal)
1943 Original (black crinkle)
1943 J.H. Bunnell J-36 (black crinkle)
1946 TAC 510 (black crinkle)
1952 Original (grey)
1955 Blue Racer (black crinkle) with original leather case
1964 Original (Heathkit green crinkle)
1964 Original Deluxe

The trick I think, is to use them all. I never run without at least two plugged in at all times. In the last SKCC sprint, I had one bug start to send erratic dits...as the dit screw had become loose. I just switched over to the other until the QSO was over, then effected the repair. But, I did sound like a newb for a moment ;)

73/72
Bob
SKCC #5204T
VE3AKV

# 1324. Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-09 13:51:40 UTC
From: n3cw
Topic: 1324  Message: 1324

Hello,
I've posted a photo in my N3CW folder of an old Vibroplex Original. After a good cleaning, it was obvious that the finish on the Japanned base had cracked, but in such a way that it almost looks like a leather finish. It's actually fairly consistent and looks somewhat attractive as-is. Anyone else ever noticed this on any of their older Vibroplex models?
--Ed--

# 1325. Re: [cw_bugs] Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-09 14:53:23 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1324  Message: 1325

Are you sure it is a japanned base and not a black leather finish base.
Vibroplex made this in the 1930s-40s.

73

DR

David N1EA
-30-

On Sat, Jan 9, 2010 at 8:51 AM, n3cw <ed.goss@...> wrote:

> Hello,
> I've posted a photo in my N3CW folder of an old Vibroplex Original.
> After a good cleaning, it was obvious that the finish on the Japanned base
> had cracked, but in such a way that it almost looks like a leather finish.
> It's actually fairly consistent and looks somewhat attractive as-is. Anyone
> else ever noticed this on any of their older Vibroplex models?
> --Ed--
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1326. Re: [cw_bugs] SKCC Members here??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 15:14:32 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1323  Message: 1326

It's good to hear about your keys, Bob. That's quite a collection and I'm somewhat envious!

I started with bugs almost by accident, I saw a beautiful bug on Ebay and I just had to have it! Never mind the fact that I hadn't made a CW contact in possibly 20 years. That bug is a 1956 Presentation in a plexiglass display case.

I enjoyed that bug so much that I started watching ebay a whole lot more. I bought a Lionel bug -- J37??? -- and a nice Vibroplex Standard, both too fast for me, so I got a VariSpeed for the Presentation and the Standard but the Lionel is still too fast HI!

Along the way I found that one of my Elmers from way back in 1982 had been flooded out in Katrina. I emailed him and offered him the Lionel and then at the last second I packed up the Vibroplex Standard instead. That was a nice, plain bug with good action, unlike the Lionel which needs a good depaint and repaint.

It's kinda funny -- it doesn't matter if you call it karma, zen, "what goes around comes around" or "ye shall reap what ye sow", they're all true. Some months after sending that bug off, a bug that originally belonged to another of my Elmers came to me as a gift. I was shocked and very, very happy to get it. This one is quite rare, I believe it was made by an outfit called American Standard for use in airplanes. But the real excitement is that it was Don's (WA5JKK) and I remember being in his shack watching him use it.

I also have a Bunnell straight key with a bug lip and I've mounted it to a plastic cutting board. I have a couple of wedges so it's easy to use the SK or any of the bugs. For Field Day a couple of years ago I hard-mounted all of them to the cutting board and wired them ALL in parallel. Sadly I couldn't get anybody else to do CW, the just wanted to scream into the microphone at the other station.

Oh well. I had fun.

Anybody else? I'd sure like to see more activity here.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "ve3akv" <ve3akv@rac.ca>
Date: Sat, 09 Jan 2010 03:57:01
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] SKCC Members here??

Hello to all...

Thanks for accepting my request to join.

I've been a 99% CW man for sometime and I'm looking forward to reading some your stories and thoughts concerning bugs.

I have a small collection and it could be said, "I've been bitten by the bug"...

1932 Lightning (black crystal)
1943 Original (black crinkle)
1943 J.H. Bunnell J-36 (black crinkle)
1946 TAC 510 (black crinkle)
1952 Original (grey)
1955 Blue Racer (black crinkle) with original leather case
1964 Original (Heathkit green crinkle)
1964 Original Deluxe

The trick I think, is to use them all. I never run without at least two plugged in at all times. In the last SKCC sprint, I had one bug start to send erratic dits...as the dit screw had become loose. I just switched over to the other until the QSO was over, then effected the repair. But, I did sound like a newb for a moment ;)

73/72
Bob
SKCC #5204T
VE3AKV

# 1327. Re: [cw_bugs] SKCC Members here??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 16:00:45 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1323  Message: 1327

Something tells me that the 1964 Original Deluxe was "your" bug. What a beautiful collection. I've never heard of a Heathkit bug - but then again, I'm only got my license in 1965 - I didn't know anything about bugs until I wanted to send fast like the big boys on the bands.

73

David N1EA
=30=

On Fri, Jan 8, 2010 at 10:57 PM, ve3akv <ve3akv@...> wrote:

> Hello to all...
>
> Thanks for accepting my request to join.
>
> I've been a 99% CW man for sometime and I'm looking forward to reading some
> your stories and thoughts concerning bugs.
>
> I have a small collection and it could be said, "I've been bitten by the
> bug"...
>
> 1932 Lightning (black crystal)
> 1943 Original (black crinkle)
> 1943 J.H. Bunnell J-36 (black crinkle)
> 1946 TAC 510 (black crinkle)
> 1952 Original (grey)
> 1955 Blue Racer (black crinkle) with original leather case
> 1964 Original (Heathkit green crinkle)
> 1964 Original Deluxe
>
> The trick I think, is to use them all. I never run without at least two
> plugged in at all times. In the last SKCC sprint, I had one bug start to
> send erratic dits...as the dit screw had become loose. I just switched over
> to the other until the QSO was over, then effected the repair. But, I did
> sound like a newb for a moment ;)
>
> 73/72
> Bob
> SKCC #5204T
> VE3AKV
>
>
>
>
>

> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1328. Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 17:18:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1328  Message: 1328

Anybody have an idea how to keep a bug in one piece while mobile? I'd like to take a bug with me in the 18-wheeler, but the earlier times I tried, the pendulum got bounced loose and I had to reassemble everything! I really don't want to beat them up so bad.

Maybe I'll just take the Lionel -- it's already beat up a bit.

Tnx
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1329. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:01:38 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1328  Message: 1329
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Set the bug up for 27 wpm,, use Loctite medium, and if possible put the bug on a bench type seat so that the bug is about 45 degrees rotated from the line of the driver to the windshield. You can often see Don Wallace W6AM (sk) using his bug mobile in this type position.
Don Wallace, W6AM in his mobile amateur radio installation using a semi-automatic key
See http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/rhombic/6am_mob.jpg

73

David, N1EA
-30-

# 1330. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:11:44 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1328  Message: 1330

Oh boy I wish I could do all that! No bench in the truck, though, and the truck absolutely POUNDS things to pieces. I guess I might try one of those "mini paddles" and set the keyer in the 706 to "bug mode"...

Tnx
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1331. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:12:21 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1328  Message: 1331

Don's Cadillac more than likely had a much smoother ride than Earl's 18-wheeler. It was said you could tell when Don went around a curve cuz his dits changed due to centrifugal force on the pendulum. I'm sure the 45 degree orientation helped some.
Bugs are just not engineered for mobile, in my opinion.
Milt

# 1332. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:15:42 UTC
From: Al
Topic: 1328  Message: 1332
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Was  his a car in motion?

---
From: "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sun, January 10, 2010 1:01:38 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Set the bug up for 27 wpm,, use Loctite medium, and if possible put the bug on a bench type seat so that the bug is about 45 degrees rotated from the line of the driver to the windshield.  You can often see Don Wallace W6AM (sk) using his bug mobile in this type position.

See http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/rhombic/6am_mob.jpg

73

David, N1EA
-30-

# 1333. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:25:56 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1328  Message: 1333

Not for the photo, I'm sure, but I've worked him many times when he was driving down the Interstate.

I've also used a bug myself mobile (from a car, not a ship) - but also on a ship - but you guy's weren't asking about ship mobile, I'm sure.

Actually I never had a problem with turns because almost all of my operating was on straight aways - when you worked me mobile in an automobile, I'd sometimes have "not on the air" moments - this is because (and I believe rightly so) that operation of the vehicle took precedence over operation of the radio set.

73

David N1EA

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 1:15 PM, Al <k3eax@...> wrote:

> Was his a car in motion?
>
> ----------
> *From:* "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Sun, January 10, 2010 1:01:38 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff
>
> Set the bug up for 27 wpm,, use Loctite medium, and if possible put the bug
> on a bench type seat so that the bug is about 45 degrees rotated from the
> line of the driver to the windshield. You can often see Don Wallace W6AM
> (sk) using his bug mobile in this type position.
> [image: Don Wallace, W6AM in his mobile amateur radio installation using a
> semi-automatic key]
> See http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/rhombic/6am_mob.jpg
>
> 73
>
> David, N1EA
> -30-
>
>

# 1334. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:29:39 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1328  Message: 1334

Exactly right -- you have to set the correct priorities.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: David Ring <n1ea@arrl.net>
Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 13:25:56
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Not for the photo, I'm sure, but I've worked him many times when he was driving down the Interstate.

I've also used a bug myself mobile (from a car, not a ship) - but also on a ship - but you guy's weren't asking about ship mobile, I'm sure.

Actually I never had a problem with turns because almost all of my operating was on straight aways - when you worked me mobile in an automobile, I'd sometimes have "not on the air" moments - this is because (and I believe rightly so) that operation of the vehicle took precedence over operation of the radio set.

73

David N1EA

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 1:15 PM, Al <k3eax@arrl.net> wrote:

> Was his a car in motion?
>
> ----------
> *From:* "David J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@arrl.net>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Sun, January 10, 2010 1:01:38 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff
>
> Set the bug up for 27 wpm,, use Loctite medium, and if possible put the bug
> on a bench type seat so that the bug is about 45 degrees rotated from the
> line of the driver to the windshield. You can often see Don Wallace W6AM
> (sk) using his bug mobile in this type position.
> [image: Don Wallace, W6AM in his mobile amateur radio installation using a
> semi-automatic key]

> See http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/rhombic/6am_mob.jpg
>
> 73
>
> David, N1EA
> -30-
>
>

# 1335. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:34:32 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1328  Message: 1335

Otherwise your car may have the deer in the headlights look.

73
DR

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 1:29 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:

>
>
> Exactly right -- you have to set the correct priorities.
>
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>

# 1336. Re: [cw_bugs] Mobile stuff

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 18:40:22 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1328  Message: 1336

I think this falls under the heading "needless to say". All the folks I know who operate mobile are very conscious of their responsibility to operate the vehicle as their first priority. Being a professional driver I'm sure Earl is MORE than conscious of that responsibility.
Milt

In a message dated 1/10/2010 1:34:38 PM Eastern Standard Time, n1ea@... writes:

Otherwise your car may have the deer in the headlights look.

73
DR

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 1:29 PM, Earl Needham <_earl.kd5xb@..._ (mailto:earl.kd5xb@...) > wrote:

Exactly right -- you have to set the correct priorities.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham

# 1337. remove

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 22:30:31 UTC
From: rrsty85@sbcglobal.net
Topic: 1337  Message: 1337

Please remove my nam from this list.

Rusty Wright
rrsty85@...

# 1338. Re: [cw_bugs] remove

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 22:42:42 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1337  Message: 1338

Rusty, I'm mobile and only have my BlackBerry to work with. I can possibly take care of it later tonight or else around Friday or Saturday when I get home.

In the meantime I suggest you look at the bottom of this email and click the link that says "Unsubscribe"

7 3
Earl
List owner

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "rrsty85@sbcglobal.net" <rrsty85@...>
Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 22:30:31
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] remove

Please remove my nam from this list.

Rusty Wright
rrsty85@...

# 1339. Re: [cw_bugs] remove

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 22:44:32 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1337  Message: 1339

Rusty,

At the end of the message there is the directions to unsubscribe.

**********

*> To unsubscribe from this group, send an email to:
cw_bugs-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

**********

73
David N1EA

<cw_bugs-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com>

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 5:30 PM, rrsty85@... <
rrsty85@...> wrote:

> Please remove my nam from this list.
>
> Rusty Wright
> rrsty85@...
>
>

# 1340. Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-10 23:59:29 UTC
From: n3cw
Topic: 1324  Message: 1340

Hi David,
Underneath the nameplate the finish is completely smooth. Do you know how Vibroplex applied the leather finish? There are drips on the bottom of this base that seem to be consistent with Japanned finishes.
--Ed--

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Are you sure it is a japanned base and not a black leather finish base.
> Vibroplex made this in the 1930s-40s.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David N1EA
> -30-
>
> On Sat, Jan 9, 2010 at 8:51 AM, n3cw <ed.goss@...> wrote:
>
> > Hello,
> > I've posted a photo in my N3CW folder of an old Vibroplex Original.
> > After a good cleaning, it was obvious that the finish on the Japanned base
> > had cracked, but in such a way that it almost looks like a leather finish.
> > It's actually fairly consistent and looks somewhat attractive as-is. Anyone
> > else ever noticed this on any of their older Vibroplex models?
> > --Ed--
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1341. Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 00:05:30 UTC
From: n3cw
Topic: 1324  Message: 1341

I should also say I've never seen the original leather finish so I don't have anything to compare this with. But this S/N is 64381...1918 vicinity.
--Ed--

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, David Ring <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Are you sure it is a japanned base and not a black leather finish base.
> Vibroplex made this in the 1930s-40s.
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David N1EA
> -30-
>
> On Sat, Jan 9, 2010 at 8:51 AM, n3cw <ed.goss@...> wrote:
>
> > Hello,
> > I've posted a photo in my N3CW folder of an old Vibroplex Original.
> > After a good cleaning, it was obvious that the finish on the Japanned base
> > had cracked, but in such a way that it almost looks like a leather finish.
> > It's actually fairly consistent and looks somewhat attractive as-is. Anyone
> > else ever noticed this on any of their older Vibroplex models?
> > --Ed--
> >
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1342. japaned base cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 01:23:44 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1342  Message: 1342

In the teens and into the twenties Vibroplex made a base finish that was known at that time as "leatherette." I had a Racer like that. You can see photos of it on my website www.KT5X.com

73, Fred - kt5x

# 1343. Heathkit bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 03:32:25 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1323  Message: 1343

I have a vague memory about Heathkit bugs - seems to me they were a similar deal as the Ten Tec stuff. I only got my license in 1982 so I must have seen something about them in an old magazine or something.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: David Ring <n1ea@arrl.net>
Date: Sun, 10 Jan 2010 11:00:45
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] SKCC Members here??

Something tells me that the 1964 Original Deluxe was "your" bug. What a beautiful collection. I've never heard of a Heathkit bug - but then again, I'm only got my license in 1965 - I didn't know anything about bugs until I wanted to send fast like the big boys on the bands.

73

David N1EA
=30=

On Fri, Jan 8, 2010 at 10:57 PM, ve3akv <ve3akv@rac.ca> wrote:

> Hello to all...
>
> Thanks for accepting my request to join.
>
> I've been a 99% CW man for sometime and I'm looking forward to reading some
> your stories and thoughts concerning bugs.
>
> I have a small collection and it could be said, "I've been bitten by the
> bug"...
>
> 1932 Lightning (black crystal)
> 1943 Original (black crinkle)
> 1943 J.H. Bunnell J-36 (black crinkle)
> 1946 TAC 510 (black crinkle)
> 1952 Original (grey)
> 1955 Blue Racer (black crinkle) with original leather case
> 1964 Original (Heathkit green crinkle)

> 1964 Original Deluxe
>
> The trick I think, is to use them all. I never run without at least two
> plugged in at all times. In the last SKCC sprint, I had one bug start to
> send erratic dits...as the dit screw had become loose. I just switched over
> to the other until the QSO was over, then effected the repair. But, I did
> sound like a newb for a moment ;)
>
> 73/72
> Bob
> SKCC #5204T
> VE3AKV
>
>
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1344. Re: [cw_bugs] Heathkit bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 04:25:28 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1323  Message: 1344

I remember that Vibroplex made a paddle to match the Hallicrafters TO-Keyer - maybe it had a custom tone of grey as the Hallicrafters radios of that vintage were matte (no reflection) silver, black and grey with the slightest touch of chrome.and maybe a bit of red in the meter scales and indicators. There were also two tones of brown - Sienna Brown and I forget the other brown - but Heathkit was making radios in this color at the end of Heathkit's days - so perhaps the mystery of the "Light Brown" Vibroplex was actually a mock-up of another Heathkit color that never got released.

Some of the bugs from the 1920s and 1930s are simply amazing - I love the bugs with the (I don't know the correct term for it) articulated dash lever pivot - they move smoother than sliding down a hill of melting ice cream into a cloud of whipped cream. Man, they send so beautifully - like a fine violin. (Violin music plays a song in background)

With the move to Mobile, AL there was a limited edition for Ten-Tec users and also for Collins collectors - with matching colors.

But I tell you I'd love to have a Heathkit Green bug - that would make my day - heck, I guess I'd even buy a beat up Original and paint it that color - how cool would that be?

73

David N1EA

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 10:32 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:

>
>
> I have a vague memory about Heathkit bugs - seems to me they were a similar
> deal as the Ten Tec stuff. I only got my license in 1982 so I must have seen
> something about them in an old magazine or something.
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
>

# 1345. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 04:30:42 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1324  Message: 1345

I don't know the name of the chemical or the process they used - as I recall such finishes were made in various ways - some had vibrations made to the painted object, some had chemicals added to effect the finish. There were leather finish, hammertone, and other finishes that were on radio equipment - hammertone was a fascinating one - it appeared on some Hallicrafters radios - and other radios - it looked like the paint was hit - and very uniformly - with a tiny tiny hammer about the size of the head of a finish nail. Fascinating to learn that it wasn't produced by some little hammer device.

Those engineers - what won't they do to delight us!

73

DR

On Sun, Jan 10, 2010 at 7:05 PM, n3cw <ed.goss@...> wrote:

> I should also say I've never seen the original leather finish so I don't
> have anything to compare this with. But this S/N is 64381...1918 vicinity.
> --Ed--
>
> \
>

# 1346. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 13:31:56 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 1324  Message: 1346

David,

Chapter 2 of W. R. Smith's great book " HOW TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH KEYS" is all about Japanning a key base.

The ingredients are 2 parts of boiled linseed oil, 5 parts turpentine, 3 parts asphaltum powder and 3 parts of rosin.

How to do it is much too long for this posting, his book is the best source for the info. WR devotes 12 pages to japanning a base.

--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 1347. Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 13:46:41 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1324  Message: 1347

Hello...

I've reading this thread with interest.

The 1932-33 Lightning I have has this Leatherette or "Crystal" finish on it. I'll post a close up to the photo section.

I've never seen or heard of an example of the "Japanned" base in a crinkle design. But then again, I'm fairly new with this stuff as I've only recently been "bitten by the bug"... ;)

I have seen the finish you're showing on that bug in another medium...it is on 1962 Gibson B-25 guitar that I own. Before I received this instrument, it had been frozen and warmed too quickly a couple of times while on tour in the early 70's. More likely, many times. The previous owner had a bit of a "who cares" attitude towards his tools of the trade. The cracking on the guitar looks very much like what I call the "orange peel effect".

Either way...from all I've managed to gleam across the internet and libraries...the "Japanned" finish seems to have come in two variations from the factory...gloss and semi-gloss type of finishes. But then again, we all know the internet is never wrong! :)

73/72
Bob
VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@...> wrote:
>
> David,
>
> Chapter 2 of W. R. Smith's great book " HOW TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH KEYS"
> is all about Japanning a key base.
>
> The ingredients are 2 parts of boiled linseed oil, 5 parts turpentine,
> 3 parts asphaltum powder and 3 parts of rosin.
>
> How to do it is much too long for this posting, his book is the best
> source for the info. WR devotes 12 pages to japanning a base.
>
> --
> 73,
> Don, NN8B
>

# 1348. Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 14:29:05 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1324  Message: 1348

Pics are now posted in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).

Bob

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ve3akv" <ve3akv@...> wrote:
>
> Hello...
>
> I've reading this thread with interest.
>
> The 1932-33 Lightning I have has this Leatherette or "Crystal" finish on it. I'll post a close up to the photo section.
>
> I've never seen or heard of an example of the "Japanned" base in a crinkle design. But then again, I'm fairly new with this stuff as I've only recently been "bitten by the bug"... ;)
>
> I have seen the finish you're showing on that bug in another medium...it is on 1962 Gibson B-25 guitar that I own. Before I received this instrument, it had been frozen and warmed too quickly a couple of times while on tour in the early 70's. More likely, many times. The previous owner had a bit of a "who cares" attitude towards his tools of the trade. The cracking on the guitar looks very much like what I call the "orange peel effect".
>
> Either way...from all I've managed to gleam across the internet and libraries...the "Japanned" finish seems to have come in two variations from the factory...gloss and semi-gloss type of finishes. But then again, we all know the internet is never wrong! :)
>
> 73/72
> Bob
> VE3AKV
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Donald Kemp <nn8b.oh@> wrote:
> >
> > David,
> >
> > Chapter 2 of W. R. Smith's great book " HOW TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH KEYS"
> > is all about Japanning a key base.
> >
> > The ingredients are 2 parts of boiled linseed oil, 5 parts turpentine,
> > 3 parts asphaltum powder and 3 parts of rosin.
> >
> > How to do it is much too long for this posting, his book is the best
> > source for the info. WR devotes 12 pages to japanning a base.

> >
> > --
> > 73,
> > Don, NN8B
> >
>

# 1349. another "bug tamer"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 14:32:00 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1349  Message: 1349

To all...

I was looking at the bits and pieces I had laying around one day while thinking about how to slow down bug.

After several versions and attempts...the final revision happened.

It is shown in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).

73
Bob

# 1350. 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 14:40:35 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1350  Message: 1350

Hello to all...

The "heathkit green" color was a special order thing back in the early 60's. It is VERY rare indeed...especially on an Original.

Pictures are now posted in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).

The only recent "greens" I've found are on Vibrokeyers and there are very few of those around for whatever reason. The crazy part is the asking price online for these "green" vibrokeyers...upwards of $250 USD.

The Original I have, functions wonderfully, is smooth and fast - BUT IT'S GREEN! I bought it because it was different. It certainly has been a conversation piece with the locals who care about such things :)

BTW - I might be persuaded to part with this bug...cash is good, trades are better... :)

73,

Bob

# 1351. Re: another "bug tamer"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 14:53:50 UTC
From: Stuart
Topic: 1349  Message: 1351

Hi there Bob,
A very neat and straight forward job! I'll copy that when the weather gets a bit warmer!

73,
Stuart, GD0OUD.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ve3akv" <ve3akv@...> wrote:
>
> To all...
>
> I was looking at the bits and pieces I had laying around one day while thinking about how to slow down bug.
>
> After several versions and attempts...the final revision happened.
>
> It is shown in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).
>
> 73
> Bob
>

# 1352. RE: [cw_bugs] 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 15:09:37 UTC
From: Gary Harmon
Topic: 1350  Message: 1352

What kind of trades might be of interest to you?

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h

210.884.6926c

"Retirement means everyday is a Saturday except Sunday."

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of ve3akv
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2010 8:41 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green

Hello to all...

The "heathkit green" color was a special order thing back in the early 60's. It is VERY rare indeed...especially on an Original.

Pictures are now posted in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).

The only recent "greens" I've found are on Vibrokeyers and there are very few of those around for whatever reason. The crazy part is the asking price online for these "green" vibrokeyers...upwards of $250 USD.

The Original I have, functions wonderfully, is smooth and fast - BUT IT'S GREEN! I bought it because it was different. It certainly has been a conversation piece with the locals who care about such things :)

BTW - I might be persuaded to part with this bug...cash is good, trades are better... :)

73,

Bob

# 1353. Re: 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 15:22:17 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1350  Message: 1353

Hey there Gary...

WOW - that was fast... ;)

Something "bug" or CW related I would think might be of interest.

I also build and collect QRP rigs. I've got a couple of K1's and a K2 plus some Small Wonders Labs stuff too.

I'm open to ideas.

73
Bob
VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Gary Harmon" <gharmon@...> wrote:
>
> What kind of trades might be of interest to you?
>
>
>
> Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK
>
> 6003 Archwood
>
> San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
>
> 210.657.1549h
>
> 210.884.6926c
>
>
>
> "Retirement means everyday is a Saturday except Sunday."
>
>
>
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of
> ve3akv
> Sent: Monday, January 11, 2010 8:41 AM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green
>
>
>
>

>
> Hello to all...
>
> The "heathkit green" color was a special order thing back in the early 60's.
> It is VERY rare indeed...especially on an Original.
>
> Pictures are now posted in the photo section under VE3AKV (second page).
>
> The only recent "greens" I've found are on Vibrokeyers and there are very
> few of those around for whatever reason. The crazy part is the asking price
> online for these "green" vibrokeyers...upwards of $250 USD.
>
> The Original I have, functions wonderfully, is smooth and fast - BUT IT'S
> GREEN! I bought it because it was different. It certainly has been a
> conversation piece with the locals who care about such things :)
>
> BTW - I might be persuaded to part with this bug...cash is good, trades are
> better... :)
>
> 73,
>
> Bob
>

# 1354. Re: japaned base cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-11 15:26:04 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1342  Message: 1354

Fred...

I just visited your website and realized, I'd been "here" before :)

I'm very much in awe of your workmanship.

Have you had any successes with chrome or nickel rather than paints?

73
Bob
VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <KT5X@...> wrote:
>
> In the teens and into the twenties Vibroplex made a base finish that was known at that time as "leatherette." I had a Racer like that. You can see photos of it on my website www.KT5X.com
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>

# 1355. Re: 1964 Vibroplex Original in Heathkit Green

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-12 09:14:30 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1350  Message: 1355

I have a Vibroplex Original with a green base. Dated 1924.

It can be seen on page: http://WWW.morsemad.Com/vib.htm

Just scroll down to key pics. 527a & 527b.

□ □

John / G0RDO

http://www.morsemad.com

# 1356. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-12 12:05:04 UTC
From: David Ring
Topic: 1324  Message: 1356

Hi Don,

Yes, WR Smith's book is very excellent about japanning - but he doesn't mention what went into the sauce to make it look like leather - many times it was a chemical process, sometimes a physical process such as dabbing more paint irregularly.

73

DR

# 1357. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Japanned Base Cracking

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-12 14:42:32 UTC
From: Donald Kemp
Topic: 1324  Message: 1357

David,

You're correct he does not say anything about that.
I wonder if it would be Tung oil.
That's the stuff for making the crackle finish.

--
73,
Don, NN8B

# 1358. Fw: [Vibroplex] Chrome Bug w/NELSON on the Base

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-12 20:35:04 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1358  Message: 1358

Something from the Vibroplex list - if anybody knows of this one, tell me & I'll pass it along.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "Gary Harmon" <gharmon@...>
Date: Mon, 11 Jan 2010 09:43:36
To: CW4 VIBROPLEX LIST<vibroplex@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [Vibroplex] Chrome Bug w/NELSON on the Base

Good Morning All.

A good friend would like to find a bug which belonged to his grandfather.
As he recalls, it was chrome bug with red handles and had the name "NELSON"
engraved on the base. If you have this bug or know where it might be,
please let me know and I will forward the information to my friend.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h

210.884.6926c

"Retirement means everyday is a Saturday except Sunday."

# 1359. RFTB tomorrow night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-17 00:52:35 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1223  Message: 1359

RFTB is tomorrow night! And since a lot of you folks have Monday off - there's really no good reason to miss it! Enjoy some "on the air time" with your QRP buddies!

Spend some time with the Flying Pigs. See you on the air from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern time.

For details, please visit:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1360. new family member in the bug case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-17 14:42:02 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1360  Message: 1360

Hi Folks, After attending the Hammond Hamfest In Louisiana saturday. I came Home with a nice 1945 Vibroplex Zephyr, I am very proud to have it in the cabinet with all it's brothers :-) 73' I just wanted to brag a little :-) KE5PWL SKCC 4229T ..

# 1361. Re: [cw_bugs] new family member in the bug case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-17 14:50:51 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1360  Message: 1361

Do you know any of its history? Where it came from, who owned it when it was new, etc?

7 3
Earl

P. S. Tell Bob Priez I said HI!

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...>
Date: Sun, 17 Jan 2010 14:42:02
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] new family member in the bug case

Hi Folks, After attending the Hammond Hamfest In Louisiana saturday. I came Home with a nice 1945 Vibroplex Zephyr, I am very proud to have it in the cabinet with all it's brothers :-) 73' I just wanted to brag a little :-) KE5PWL SKCC 4229T ..

# 1362. Re: new family member in the bug case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-17 15:53:03 UTC
From: n8mfn
Topic: 1360  Message: 1362

Hi all I just got my bug yesterday and man are different to use I am still tring to get it adjusted has been some sort of a chore I hope to get it adjusted and put into use soon
Rick
N8MFN

# 1363. Re: new family member in the bug case

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-18 04:39:03 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1360  Message: 1363

No Earl, I have no clue about the history. I do know it changed hands twice at the same hamfest :-) never even left the grounds before being sold twice. One of good friends bought it from a table, he showed it to me, and i bought from him right there :-) I was looking for a zephyr, he already owns one himself, so he didn't mind getting his money back i guess. 73'..

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Earl Needham" <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> Do you know any of its history? Where it came from, who owned it when it was new, etc?
>
> 7 3
> Earl
>
> P. S. Tell Bob Priez I said HI!
>
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
> Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
> Posted via Blackberry
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "ke5pwleric" <holmeseric19@...>
> Date: Sun, 17 Jan 2010 14:42:02
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] new family member in the bug case
>
> Hi Folks, After attending the Hammond Hamfest In Louisiana saturday. I came Home with a nice 1945 Vibroplex Zephyr, I am very proud to have it in the cabinet with all it's brothers :-) 73' I just wanted to brag a little :-) KE5PWL SKCC 4229T ..
>

# 1364. FS: Vibroplex Original Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-01-25 19:03:18 UTC
From: rick.dettinger
Topic: 1364  Message: 1364

I am selling my Vibroplex Original Bug. This is the plain bearing model with the black wrinkle base. It is in near new condition with no cosmetic damage. Non smoking environment. I bought it new in about 2005. It is serial number 109664. New cost is $180 plus shipping. I am selling it for $110 incl. shipping to CONUS. Check or MO.

Rick Dettinger K7MW k7mw@...t

# 1365. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-08 14:49:26 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1365

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for February, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201002.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Award goes to the winner of a drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1366. NAQCC - Lifetime membership is FREE!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-17 15:49:56 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1366  Message: 1366

Want to break out of the dull winter routine?

Want to be part of the largest QRP CW club in the world? (4,000+ members from 80+ countries!)

Perhaps you are looking for someone to "Elmer" you? Then we have just what you need to develop and improve your CW skills, including QRS nets perfect for the new CW op.

Or maybe you would like to volunteer your time and become an "Elmer" to help one of those fellow hams new to Morse code.

And how about a Sprint or two thrown in for good measure? We have them too, for those of you who like a little friendly contesting. Our sprints now rival many others in the amount of participation.

Want something that lasts a little longer than a sprint? We have challenges that last a whole month with a different theme each month.

Into awards? Our extensive awards program has something for everyone.

Many of our sprints, challenges, awards, and other club activities involve handsome prizes donated by our members.

Best of all, this and more can be yours at NO COST just by joining the NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club). Lifetime membership is FREE!!

As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

Now is the time to get involved! Join our group that includes "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time.

Help us on our mission to preserve and encourage CW activity on our amateur bands. Sign up today and help keep CW alive and well.

Don't wait, do it now!

Visit http://www.windstream.net/yoel/ to sign up and receive your FREE lifetime membership number and certificate.

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Paul, KD2MX - NAQCC Recruitment Officer
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

# 1367. NAQCC - Lifetime membership is FREE!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-17 17:45:38 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1366  Message: 1367

Want to break out of the dull winter routine?

Want to be part of the largest QRP CW club in the world? (4,000+ members from 80+ countries!)

Perhaps you are looking for someone to "Elmer" you? Then we have just what you need to develop and improve your CW skills, including QRS nets perfect for the new CW op.

Or maybe you would like to volunteer your time and become an "Elmer" to help one of those fellow hams new to Morse code.

And how about a Sprint or two thrown in for good measure? We have them too, for those of you who like a little friendly contesting. Our sprints now rival many others in the amount of participation.

Want something that lasts a little longer than a sprint? We have challenges that last a whole month with a different theme each month.

Into awards? Our extensive awards program has something for everyone.

Many of our sprints, challenges, awards, and other club activities involve handsome prizes donated by our members.

Best of all, this and more can be yours at NO COST just by joining the NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club). Lifetime membership is FREE!!

As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

Now is the time to get involved! Join our group that includes "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time.

Help us on our mission to preserve and encourage CW activity on our amateur bands. Sign up today and help keep CW alive and well.

Don't wait, do it now!

Visit http://home.windstream.net/yoel/ to sign up and receive your FREE lifetime membership number and certificate.

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Paul, KD2MX - NAQCC Recruitment Officer
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

# 1368. RFTB tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-21 15:42:07 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1213  Message: 1368

RFTB is tonight! Do you have anything left in the tank after chasing DX all weekend ??? If you do (or even if you don't) try a change of pace from the 35+ WPM International DX Contest; to our friendly, non-pressurized QRP Sprint.

Spend some time with the Flying Pigs. See you on the air from 9:00 to 11:00 PM Eastern time. And don't forget to try out the "new" old territory of 7.100 MHz and above. There should be lots of Piggies to be found there, too.

For details, please visit:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1369. Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 21:27:23 UTC
From: w6hv@verizon.net
Topic: 1369  Message: 1369

I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this area, strictly relying on those of you that are!

The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the photos on the Vibroplex site?

I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

73,
Troy, W6HV

# 1370. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 21:41:04 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1370

I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece, etc., are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.

Troy, W6HV

---
From: <w6hv@...>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this area, strictly relying on those of you that are!

The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the photos on the Vibroplex site?

I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

73,
Troy, W6HV

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1371. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 22:09:38 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1369  Message: 1371

Apologies to the members; I meant to reply to Troy himself, and I certainly didn't want to make you all envious of my palatial shack...

QAC de G2JL +

# 1372. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 22:05:20 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1369  Message: 1372
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

GE OM !

I bought a new Lighting Bug, serial # 209959 about 1960. It had a chromium plated base, but it looked as if it had been sawn off a large 3 x 6 inch iron bar by a drunken blind idiot. About 1970, I dismantled it & removed the base & gave it to a friend who had a machine-shop at his work place, the Metal Box Company. He offered to get it ground flat, polished & plated. The factory burnt down as a result of arson by a disaffected ex-employee ! My key-base was lost.

So, I drew up a sketch and had a base made, for money alone, which is far superior to the original. It was before the Internet, or the book on Vibroplexes I now have, so I put the label in the wrong place.

One day soon, it will baffle collectors !

Here you can see it; my picture is on QRZ.com, too. The enclosed one is more recent. U see my shack was not so tidy, this time. A tidy shack shows a tidy mind; most peoples are empty, and boring...

73 de Mort, G2JL73 de Mort, G2JL

# 1373. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 22:28:21 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1369  Message: 1373

Apologies to the members; I meant to reply to Troy himself, and I certainly didn't want to make you all envious of my palatial shack...

QAC de G2JL +

# 1374. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 23:30:40 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1374

Mort,

I appreciate the photo! Also, assuming I see your Lightning to the far right of the keyboard, it would appear that the plastics are the same color and shape as this bug. I just took all the parts out of my little ultrasonic cleaner and they look nearly new. So, the problem is what to do with the base.

73,
Troy, W6HV
From: G2JL
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 2:05 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

GE OM !

I bought a new Lighting Bug, serial # 209959 about 1960. It had a chromium plated base, but it looked as if it had been sawn off a large 3 x 6 inch iron bar by a drunken blind idiot. About 1970, I dismantled it & removed the base & gave it to a friend who had a machine-shop at his work place, the Metal Box Company. He offered to get it ground flat, polished & plated. The factory burnt down as a result of arson by a disaffected ex-employee ! My key-base was lost.

So, I drew up a sketch and had a base made, for money alone, which is far superior to the original. It was before the Internet, or the book on Vibroplexes I now have, so I put the label in the wrong place.

One day soon, it will baffle collectors !

Here you can see it; my picture is on QRZ.com, too. The enclosed one is more recent. U see my shack was not so tidy, this time. A tidy shack shows a tidy mind; most peoples are empty, and boring...

73 de Mort, G2JL73 de Mort, G2JL

# 1375. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 23:47:22 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1369  Message: 1375

Troy,
Its a simple matter to have the base rechromed. I took a Blue Racer Deluxe to a local plater and he only charged me 30 US Dollars to strip and rechrome the base, mainframe, and damper. I assume similar services are available in your area.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 2/24/2010 6:39:16 PM Eastern Standard Time, w6hv@... writes:

Mort,

I appreciate the photo! Also, assuming I see your Lightning to the far right of the keyboard, it would appear that the plastics are the same color and shape as this bug. I just took all the parts out of my little ultrasonic cleaner and they look nearly new. So, the problem is what to do with the base.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: _G2JL_ (mailto:mort.g2jl@...)

# 1376. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-24 23:57:13 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1376

Mort,
Thanks. I just checked and found a plating company in the next town (about 25 miles away) so can check with them. I only need the base re-plated.
73, Troy, W6HV
From: k4oso@...
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 3:47 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Troy,
Its a simple matter to have the base rechromed. I took a Blue Racer Deluxe to a local plater and he only charged me 30 US Dollars to strip and rechrome the base, mainframe, and damper. I assume similar services are available in your area.
73, Milt k4oso

# 1377. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 00:38:19 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1369  Message: 1377

You're welcome, Troy. The name here is Milt.
73 Milt k4oso

In a message dated 2/24/2010 6:57:52 PM Eastern Standard Time,
w6hv@... writes:

Mort,
Thanks. I just checked and found a plating company in the next town
(about 25 miles away) so can check with them. I only need the base re-plated.
73, Troy, W6HV

# 1378. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 00:46:14 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1378

Milt! Good grief. I apologize! Old age doesn't seem to agree with me.
73,
Troy, W6HV
From: k4oso@...
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 4:38 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

You're welcome, Troy. The name here is Milt.
73 Milt k4oso

# 1379. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 01:42:30 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1369  Message: 1379

Hey Troy and the gang;

I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??

Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on that vintage bug with it's chromed base.

Vy 73 de;
- Bob
w9ya

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:

> I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece, etc.,
> are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.
>
> Troy, W6HV
>
> ----------
> From: <w6hv@...>
> Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>
> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had
> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
>
> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find
> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they
> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
> photos on the Vibroplex site?
>
> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
> appreciated.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

>
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1380. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 02:03:55 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1369  Message: 1380

The Deluxe Vibroplex keys had red finger pieces and two jewels in the pivot - upper and lower bearings - most (the exception was during WW2 where the bases were painted) had chrome bases.

The following keys came in Deluxe models: Original, Lightning Bug, Blue Racer.
The following keys came only in non-jeweled models: Zephyr and Champion.
The following keys only came in Deluxe finish with jeweled movement and special adjustable mainspring - the Presentation mode
Originals could be ordered on three different size bases - 3.5 inch bases (stadard), 3.0 inch (the size of the Zephyr and Martin Junior) and 2.5 inch (size of the Blue Raceer).
All keys - with the exception of the Champion could be ordered in left handed versions - at least I've never seen a lefty Champion.

All models except for Original have been discontinued - but the Original comes in two additional finishes now - presentation finish and gold finish.
There is also an Original on a small base - Blue Racer 2000 Original key.

73

David N1EA

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 4:27 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:

> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had
> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
>
> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find
> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they
> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
> photos on the Vibroplex site?
>
> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
> appreciated.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links

>
>
>
>

# 1381. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 02:20:52 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1381

After cleaning all parts in a small ultrasonic cleaner, this bug doesn't appear to have the jewels. The red finger pieces and the red knob on the shorting switch are there. Thanks for the info, David; your email saved for future reference.

Troy, W6HV
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 6:03 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

The Deluxe Vibroplex keys had red finger pieces and two jewels in the pivot - upper and lower bearings - most (the exception was during WW2 where the bases were painted) had chrome bases.

The following keys came in Deluxe models: Original, Lightning Bug, Blue Racer.
The following keys came only in non-jeweled models: Zephyr and Champion.
The following keys only came in Deluxe finish with jeweled movement and special adjustable mainspring - the Presentation mode
Originals could be ordered on three different size bases - 3.5 inch bases (stadard), 3.0 inch (the size of the Zephyr and Martin Junior) and 2.5 inch (size of the Blue Raceer).
All keys - with the exception of the Champion could be ordered in left handed versions - at least I've never seen a lefty Champion.

All models except for Original have been discontinued - but the Original comes in two additional finishes now - presentation finish and gold finish.
There is also an Original on a small base - Blue Racer 2000 Original key.

73

David N1EA

# 1382. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 02:30:35 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1382

OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version. David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site ( http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.

Troy, W6HV
From: w9ya
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Hey Troy and the gang;

I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??

Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on that vintage bug with it's chromed base.

Vy 73 de;
- Bob
w9ya

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:

I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece, etc., are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.

Troy, W6HV

---
From: <w6hv@...>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this area, strictly relying on those of you that are!

The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the photos on the Vibroplex site?

I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

73,
Troy, W6HV

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1383. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 02:57:08 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1369  Message: 1383

Yes, sure thing Troy. Um.... one other thing to note; for a while (primarily) during the forties there were various deluxe models that came WITHOUT jeweled bearings. Most notably the #6s (lightning bugs)..... One of the ore interesting things about collecting bugs is the variations. I also have a deluxe/chromed #6 - lightning bug without jeweled bearings dated to around 1942.

Enjoy your bug and be sure to look up David's excellent method for restoring the contacts and cleaning the bug to get maximum pleasure from your 'new' toy.

Vy 73 de

- Bob
w9ya

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:

>
>
> OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version.
> David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website
> and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site (
> http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.
>
> Troy, W6HV
>
> *From:* w9ya <w9ya@...>
> *Sent:* Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>
> Hey Troy and the gang;
>
>
> I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??
>
> Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on
> that vintage bug with it's chromed base.
>
>
>
> Vy 73 de;
> - Bob
> w9ya
>

>
>
> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
>> I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece,
>> etc.,
>> are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.
>>
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>> ---
>> From: <w6hv@...>
>> Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
>> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>>
>> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It
>> had
>> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
>> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
>> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
>>
>> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find
>> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they
>> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
>> photos on the Vibroplex site?
>>
>> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
>> appreciated.
>>
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>>
>>
>> ---
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> ---
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>>

>
>
>

# 1384. Re: Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 10:30:22 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1369  Message: 1384

Quite a few versions of the Vibroplex bugs can be seen on my web site at:
http://WWW.morsemad.com/vib.htm

□ □

John / G0RDO

http://www.morsemad.com

# 1385. Re: Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 14:39:33 UTC
From: ke5pwleric
Topic: 1369  Message: 1385

I Have a 1940 Deluxe Lightning Or the No6, it has red paddles, and no jeweled movements. It's signed and dated on the bottom by Howard S. Weed 1940.. I was told that he was a cw op in the navy.

--- In cw_bugs@...m, w9ya <w9ya@...> wrote:
>
> Yes, sure thing Troy. Um.... one other thing to note; for a while
> (primarily) during the forties there were various deluxe models that came
> WITHOUT jeweled bearings. Most notably the #6s (lightning bugs)..... One
> of the ore interesting things about collecting bugs is the variations. I
> also have a deluxe/chromed #6 - lightning bug without jeweled bearings dated
> to around 1942.
>
> Enjoy your bug and be sure to look up David's excellent method for restoring
> the contacts and cleaning the bug to get maximum pleasure from your 'new'
> toy.
>
> Vy 73 de
>
> - Bob
> w9ya
>
>
>
>
> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
> >
> >
> > OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version.
> > David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website
> > and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site (
> > http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.
> >
> > Troy, W6HV
> >
> > *From:* w9ya <w9ya@...>
> > *Sent:* Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
> > *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> > *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
> >
> > Hey Troy and the gang;
> >
> >
> > I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??

> >
> > Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on
> > that vintage bug with it's chromed base.
> >
> >
> >
> > Vy 73 de;
> > - Bob
> > w9ya
> >
> >
> >
> > On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
> >
> >> I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece,
> >> etc.,
> >> are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.
> >>
> >> Troy, W6HV
> >>
> >> ----------
> >> From: <w6hv@...>
> >> Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
> >> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> >> Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
> >>
> >> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It
> >> had
> >> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
> >> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
> >> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
> >>
> >> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find
> >> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they
> >> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
> >> photos on the Vibroplex site?
> >>
> >> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
> >> appreciated.
> >>
> >> 73,
> >> Troy, W6HV
> >>
> >>
> >>
> >> ----------
> >>
> >> Yahoo! Groups Links
> >>
> >>

```
> >>
> >>
> >>
> >> ------------------------------------
> >>
> >> Yahoo! Groups Links
> >>
> >>
> >>
> >>
> >
> >
> >
>
```

# 1386. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 16:27:07 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1369  Message: 1386

Bob,

I believe the #6 that you have that you have has nickel plating and has black finger pieces, doesn't it?

The deluxe bugs were the jeweled movements.

Going back even into the 19-teens, bugs were offered with painted bases or nickel plated bases. The top parts were also nickel plated.

The Deluxe was not just a finish as it is now, it was a different model of the bug. The model included three things - man-made jeweled movement on the main trunnion lever, and changes in finish by using red finger pieces and chrome base. During WW2 the base was usually painted due to restrictions on the use of chrome which could not be used for "decorative parts only" - the base was chromed just for looks, so it wasn't allowed.

73

DR

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 9:57 PM, w9ya <w9ya@...> wrote:

>
>
> Yes, sure thing Troy. Um.... one other thing to note; for a while
> (primarily) during the forties there were various deluxe models that came
> WITHOUT jeweled bearings. Most notably the #6s (lightning bugs)..... One
> of the ore interesting things about collecting bugs is the variations. I
> also have a deluxe/chromed #6 - lightning bug without jeweled bearings dated
> to around 1942.
>
> Enjoy your bug and be sure to look up David's excellent method for
> restoring the contacts and cleaning the bug to get maximum pleasure from
> your 'new' toy.
>
>
> Vy 73 de
>
> - Bob
> w9ya
>
>
>
>
> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>

>>
>>
>> OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version.
>> David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website
>> and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site (
>> http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.
>>
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>> *From:* w9ya <w9ya@...>
>> *Sent:* Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>>
>> Hey Troy and the gang;
>>
>>
>> I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??
>>
>> Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on
>> that vintage bug with it's chromed base.
>>
>>
>>
>> Vy 73 de;
>> - Bob
>> w9ya
>>
>>
>>
>> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>>
>>> I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece,
>>> etc.,
>>> are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.
>>>
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>
>>> ---
>>> From: <w6hv@...>
>>> Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
>>> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>>> Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>>>
>>> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It
>>> had
>>> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
>>> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
>>> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
>>>

>>> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't
>>> find
>>> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were
>>> they
>>> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
>>> photos on the Vibroplex site?
>>>
>>> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
>>> appreciated.
>>>
>>> 73,
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> ---
>>>
>>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> ---
>>>
>>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 1387. Les Logan 510

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 18:03:27 UTC
From: Robert Leavell
Topic: 1387  Message: 1387

I have a Les Logan Model 518. Based on the pictures I have seen, the dot return spring is missing. Would a spring from a Vibroplex Original be a good substitute.

Bob Leavell AG4JE
Hampton, Virginia

# 1388. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 18:38:01 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1369  Message: 1388

Uh... nope.....it's chromed David, and it has red parts and it APPEARS to have no jewels. I misspoke earlier however, as the FIRST jeweled bearings were pressed into the regular stems and unless you take them apart, they LOOK JUST LIKE they are the regular non-jeweled screws. (Which in fact they are, as the jewels appear to be pressed into these regular screws.)

I also have other Vibroplexes from the same (and other) era(s) that are nickle plated so I aware of that difference and I also have some obviously fully chromed bugs, amongst them a Blue Racer, that also doesn't have the later blindscrew-jeweled parts. The Blue Racer oddly is post WW2 while the #6's built with jewels and slotted screw-stems seem to be dated somewhat earlier in the forties.

While not going into such dating detail, this jewels in slotted stemmed (regular) screws is covered on page 79 of the French book. (Third edition)

Anyways, thanks for asking and helping me to correct my mea-culpa on the APPEARANCE of non-jeweled regular slotted screw stems which in fact DO contain 'jewels' !

Vy 73;

- Bob
w9ya

On Thu, Feb 25, 2010 at 9:27 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <n1ea@...> wrote:

>
>
> Bob,
>
> I believe the #6 that you have that you have has nickel plating and has
> black finger pieces, doesn't it?
>
> The deluxe bugs were the jeweled movements.
>
> Going back even into the 19-teens, bugs were offered with painted bases or
> nickel plated bases. The top parts were also nickel plated.
>
> The Deluxe was not just a finish as it is now, it was a different model of
> the bug. The model included three things - man-made jeweled movement on the
> main trunnion lever, and changes in finish by using red finger pieces and
> chrome base. During WW2 the base was usually painted due to restrictions on
> the use of chrome which could not be used for "decorative parts only" -
> the base was chromed just for looks, so it wasn't allowed.
>
> 73

>
> DR
>
>
> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 9:57 PM, w9ya <w9ya@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Yes, sure thing Troy. Um.... one other thing to note; for a while
>> (primarily) during the forties there were various deluxe models that came
>> WITHOUT jeweled bearings. Most notably the #6s (lightning bugs)..... One
>> of the ore interesting things about collecting bugs is the variations. I
>> also have a deluxe/chromed #6 - lightning bug without jeweled bearings dated
>> to around 1942.
>>
>> Enjoy your bug and be sure to look up David's excellent method for
>> restoring the contacts and cleaning the bug to get maximum pleasure from
>> your 'new' toy.
>>
>>
>> Vy 73 de
>>
>> - Bob
>> w9ya
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>>
>>>
>>>
>>> OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version.
>>> David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website
>>> and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site (
>>> http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.
>>>
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>
>>> *From:* w9ya <w9ya@...>
>>> *Sent:* Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
>>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>>>
>>> Hey Troy and the gang;
>>>
>>>
>>> I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??
>>>
>>> Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on

>>> that vintage bug with it's chromed base.
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> Vy 73 de;
>>> - Bob
>>> w9ya
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:
>>>
>>>> I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece,
>>>> etc.,
>>>> are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.
>>>>
>>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>>
>>>> ---
>>>> From: <w6hv@...>
>>>> Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
>>>> To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>>>> Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape
>>>>
>>>> I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It
>>>> had
>>>> been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am
>>>> curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this
>>>> area, strictly relying on those of you that are!
>>>>
>>>> The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't
>>>> find
>>>> any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were
>>>> they
>>>> manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the
>>>> photos on the Vibroplex site?
>>>>
>>>> I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be
>>>> appreciated.
>>>>
>>>> 73,
>>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> ---
>>>>
>>>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>>>
>>>>

```
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> ------------------------------------
>>>>
>>>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>
```

# 1389. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-25 23:10:13 UTC
From: Troy
Topic: 1369  Message: 1389

I've been very interested in the comments concerning the various configurations of the Lightning. I'm now reasonably sure that I have a deluxe #6. However, I rechecked the trunion under my lighted magnifier and did not see any sign of a jeweled bearing.

Now I have two deluxe Blue Racers c1959 and c1998, a Champion c1972, a deluxe Original c1963, and a standard Original c1976, and a Lightning c1946. No Zephyr though.

Thanks to all for the interesting info!
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: w9ya
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 6:57 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yes, sure thing Troy. Um.... one other thing to note; for a while (primarily) during the forties there were various deluxe models that came WITHOUT jeweled bearings. Most notably the #6s (lightning bugs)..... One of the ore interesting things about collecting bugs is the variations. I also have a deluxe/chromed #6 - lightning bug without jeweled bearings dated to around 1942.

Enjoy your bug and be sure to look up David's excellent method for restoring the contacts and cleaning the bug to get maximum pleasure from your 'new' toy.

Vy 73 de

- Bob
w9ya

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:

OK, Bob. I wasn't sure that the Lightning came in the Deluxe version. David, N1EA, indicated that they did. I had checked the Vibroplex website and the W1TP Telegraph & Scientific Instrument Museums site ( http://www.w1tp.com/telegraph.html ) and only saw the standard version.

Troy, W6HV
From: w9ya
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:42 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Hey Troy and the gang;

I am not sure if this a question like your original message or ??

Um, the red pieces are correct for both color and shape when present on that vintage bug with it's chromed base.

Vy 73 de;
- Bob
w9ya

On Wed, Feb 24, 2010 at 2:41 PM, Troy <w6hv@...> wrote:

I also forgot to mention that the usual black triangular thumb piece, etc., are not on the bug. Instead, the newer oval red pieces are present.

Troy, W6HV

---
From: <w6hv@...>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 1:27 PM
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

I just received an early c1946 Lightning by Vibroplex from a friend. It had been stored for many years and is in dire need of cleaning. What I am curious about is the base finish. I am absolutely not an expert in this area, strictly relying on those of you that are!

The base has a chromed finish, albeit in very poor condition. I can't find any reference to that sort of base being used for the Lightning. Were they manufactured that way, as well as the typical black finish shown in the photos on the Vibroplex site?

I would like to restore the old critter. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

73,
Troy, W6HV

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1390. Some Paddle Information and Photos

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-26 00:03:14 UTC
From: n3cw
Topic: 1390  Message: 1390

Hi Folks,
I've uploaded some CW paddle photos to my webpage; all are welcomed to visit. 73!

www.qsl.net/n3cw/index.html

--Ed, N3CW--

# 1391. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning Vibroplex in bad shape

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-26 01:49:29 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1369  Message: 1391

The jeweled bearings currently are different in two ways: The cups have the cup made from ruby or sapphire (synthetic), and the pins are rounded. The regular bearings have sharp pins on the screw ends. The jeweled bearings look like a person's elbow. The regular bearings fit inside a hollowed out screw while the jeweled bearings the elbow fits against the cup with the jewel on it. Only one half of the bearing is a jewel the other part is an elbow shaped piece of metal. Two jeweled cups one at the top, one at the bottom.

73

DR

# 1392. Re:Les Logan 510

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-26 09:50:07 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1387  Message: 1392
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

If this is any help - I have just removed a dot spring assembly from a Vib Original dated 1919 and it does indeed fit my Les Logan Speed X Model 510.

□ □

John / G0RDO

http://www.morsemad.com

# 1393. Re: [cw_bugs] Re:Les Logan 510 [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-02-26 22:00:18 UTC
From: Robert Leavell
Topic: 1387  Message: 1393

On Fri, 26 Feb 2010 09:50:07 +0000 (GMT Standard Time),
john@... wrote:
>
.Thanks John that's a big help.

Bob

# 1394. Govenment Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-04 18:51:55 UTC
From: Stew
Topic: 1394  Message: 1394

Hi all,
I just received a Vibroplex champion that has a government (Navy) part number on the base.
All the J36's I've seen were Lightning Bugs.
Would the Champion still be considered a J36 or, does it have it's own designator?
73,
Stew ke4yh

# 1395. Re: Govenment Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-05 14:51:59 UTC
From: yankee_auslander
Topic: 1394  Message: 1395

From what i understand all government bugs are designated as J-36.
Not all are Lightning bug styled though that seems to be the most popular.
Apparently manufacturers were allowed some liberties (unlike the R-390 where they were all basically clones of the Collins). A Bunnell J-36 uses a cast frame and Champ style damper.
Peace,
Bob AB2CF

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Stew" <ke4yh@...> wrote:
>
> Hi all,
> I just received a Vibroplex champion that has a government (Navy) part number on the base. All the J36's I've seen were Lightning Bugs.
> Would the Champion still be considered a J36 or, does it have it's own designator?
> 73,
> Stew ke4yh
>

# 1396. McElroy P-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-13 15:05:37 UTC
From: TJRachwal
Topic: 1396  Message: 1396

Hi Guys,
I just recently required a McElroy P-500 bug. I have a question about the mechanics of the bug. It seems it doesn't center after sending dits, I believe there is a spring missing.. I have checked all the sights for a clear close-up picture and can not tell if there is a spring missing or not. There are two longer centering screws and then there is a shorter screw that appears to do "nothing." I believe there should be some sort of spring (maybe a cone spring) that would center the arm after making a dit. If anyone has a P-500 or knows the answer to my question I sure would appreciate knowing. A picture of their P 500 would help if it shows what that short post does. Of course if I am correct then I need to track down a spring that would work as I am sure a correct part won't be available.
Any advice or help sure would be appreciated.
Tnx es 73,

Ted K8AQM

# 1397. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-13 16:39:39 UTC
From: Bob
Topic: 1396  Message: 1397

Here's a decent picture which shows a spring.  http://www.n4ekv.com/keys.asp

---
From: TJRachwal <tjrachwal@comcast.net>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sat, March 13, 2010 10:05:37 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500

Hi Guys,
I just recently required a McElroy P-500 bug. I have a question
about the mechanics of the bug. It seems it doesn't center after
sending dits, I believe there is a spring missing.. I have checked all
the sights for a clear close-up picture and can not tell if there is a
spring missing or not. There are two longer centering screws and then
there is a shorter screw that appears to do "nothing." I believe there
should be some sort of spring (maybe a cone spring) that would center
the arm after making a dit. If anyone has a P-500 or knows the answer
to my question I sure would appreciate knowing. A picture of their P
500 would help if it shows what that short post does. Of course if I am
correct then I need to track down a spring that would work as I am sure
a correct part won't be available.
Any advice or help sure would be appreciated.
Tnx es 73,

Ted K8AQM

# 1398. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-13 16:45:07 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1396  Message: 1398

With the introduction of the P-500 keys, McElroy's keys started to be very similar to Vibroplex's keys. The shorter left hand screw adjusted a cone shaped compression spring. David Ballentine, KK4DW, has a good picture of such a bug showing the spring: http://www.goofus.org/MACP500.jpg

<http://www.goofus.org/MACP500.jpg>With the old style Mac Bugs - and also the S600 Stream Key (which I believe is one of the most beautiful keys ever made) the pendulum return spring is configured differently - probably to avoid patent infringement with Vibroplex.

On the S600: On the left-hand side of the instrument, the screw you call a "centering screw" has a knurled adjusting screw threaded on it which holds in place and adjusts by it's position on the screw, a long coiled compression spring through which this machine screw passes and which at the end nearest the lever, fits into a hole of the same diameter which was bored into the lever to fix the spring.

73

David Ring
N1EA

-30-

On Sat, Mar 13, 2010 at 10:05 AM, TJRachwal <tjrachwal@...> wrote:

> Hi Guys,
> I just recently required a McElroy P-500 bug. I have a question
> about the mechanics of the bug. It seems it doesn't center after
> sending dits, I believe there is a spring missing.. I have checked all
> the sights for a clear close-up picture and can not tell if there is a
> spring missing or not. There are two longer centering screws and then
> there is a shorter screw that appears to do "nothing." I believe there
> should be some sort of spring (maybe a cone spring) that would center
> the arm after making a dit. If anyone has a P-500 or knows the answer
> to my question I sure would appreciate knowing. A picture of their P
> 500 would help if it shows what that short post does. Of course if I am
> correct then I need to track down a spring that would work as I am sure
> a correct part won't be available.
> Any advice or help sure would be appreciated.
> Tnx es 73,
>
> Ted K8AQM
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>

> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1399. Re:McElroy P-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-14 10:05:36 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1396  Message: 1399

Take a look at my picture number #069 on my web page.

You can hopefully see the spring in place:

http://www.morsemad.com/mc.htm

□ □

John / G0RDO

http://www.morsemad.com

# 1400. Re:McElroy P-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-14 17:15:03 UTC
From: cameldriver777@aol.com
Topic: 1396  Message: 1400

Hello Ted, I have a spare exact original dit spring that you are looking for. Is your QRZ.COM mailing address correct ?? BTW out of all the Macs I have owned, including the S600 and the 38B, the P500 has the best feel of them all IMHO...hi..... 73 Pete W5PEH

# 1401. Re: P500 McElroy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-14 23:31:38 UTC
From: TJRachwal
Topic: 1401  Message: 1401

Hey Guys,
What a great wealth of information you provided on my P500 question. The pictures you sent/forwarded to me clearly show the spring that is missing on my P500. It might have been obvious to "those in the know" but I wasn't sure and every picture I could find on the web didn't clearly show the area in question.
Again you have shown what a great resource "cw_bugs" is and that "when in doubt, ask" is still the best policy. Thank you all for your help.
73,

Ted K8AQM

# 1402. NJQRP and RFTB - 2X Fun!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-21 02:29:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1402  Message: 1402

The NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint is Suinday night from 8:00 to 12:00 PM local time.

In this contest, both CW and PSK31 are encouraged.

Please join us for a fun time; and while you're at it - join in on the Flying Pigs monthly Run For the Bacon and get two contest for the same dime!

Da rules are at:

http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html for the Homebrewer Sprint

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php for the RFTB

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
NJQRP #47

# 1403. Nice article!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-03-31 00:02:13 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1403  Message: 1403

Y'all take a look at http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2010/03/29/11410/ !!!

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT
Posted via Blackberry

# 1404. questions about early bases. and re-plating

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-10 00:32:29 UTC
From: yankee_auslander
Topic: 1404  Message: 1404

Hi,

Well guys, I have a 1919 Original that was basically a basket case.
The base was 90+% rust. one small corner revealed it was either nickel or chrome.
Nickel was standard till 1940 (i believe,then switched to chrome)
and they did do nickel bases in 1907 (& possibly earlier).

My question is: Was chrome offered as an option in 1919 or is it nickel?
I plan on having it re-plated and want to keep it original.

If anyone has any suggestions about what to look for in replaters, replating etc I'm all eyes. This is my first re-plate and want to do it right. Any info ,tips and things to look for, things you don't want, questions to ask a plater, the "right answers" etc. would be a major help

and thanks to all who share pix, info and help.

Peace,
Bob

# 1405. Re: [cw_bugs] questions about early bases. and re-plating

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-10 00:54:09 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1404  Message: 1405

Double plate of copper/nickel was used until about 1940, then it changed to triple plate of copper/nickel/chrome. Top parts were all plated and as an option, the base.

Nickel bases were offered as an option from about 1915 until 1940, thereafter chrome was used on top parts and as an option, the base was triple plated with a chrome top plating.

73

David N1EA

# 1406. RE: [cw_bugs] questions about early bases. and re-plating

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-10 01:25:06 UTC
From: Ed Tanton
Topic: 1404  Message: 1406
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Bob. let me know what you learn. I have a 1919 Japanned-base Blue Racer.
A poor image is embedded below. I'd bet it's nickel.

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of
yankee_auslander
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2010 8:32 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] questions about early bases. and re-plating

Hi,

Well guys, I have a 1919 Original that was basically a basket case.
The base was 90+% rust. one small corner revealed it was either nickel or
chrome.
Nickel was standard till 1940 (i believe,then switched to chrome)
and they did do nickel bases in 1907 (& possibly earlier).

My question is: Was chrome offered as an option in 1919 or is it nickel?
I plan on having it re-plated and want to keep it original.

If anyone has any suggestions about what to look for in replaters, replating
etc I'm all eyes. This is my first re-plate and want to do it right. Any
info ,tips and things to look for, things you don't want, questions to ask a
plater, the "right answers" etc. would be a major help

and thanks to all who share pix, info and help.

Peace,
Bob

# 1407. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-11 20:50:13 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1407

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for April, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201004.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1408. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-17 19:16:56 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1408

The April 2010 edition of the Run For the Bacon is tomorrow night, Sunday April 18th.

Please join us for a fun time. Take the opportunity to use this as a good "warm up" session for next weekend's QRPTTF. Shake the cobwebs off those portable QRP rigs, fire 'em up and get them ready for next Saturday!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1409. Candler High-speed morse code course

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-20 19:56:10 UTC
From: John
Topic: 1409  Message: 1409

Does anyone have a copy of any of the Candler morse code courses that were advertised in QST? I am interested in collecting old morse code records and training materials.
-John, N4HNO

# 1410. Any opionions about viz key bugs?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-21 11:58:30 UTC
From: John
Topic: 1410  Message: 1410

I have seen some videos of both the right angle and the vertical bug. Without actually trying them, the vertical looks like it might not be as useful as the right angle. Any comments?
-John N4HNO

# 1411. Re: [cw_bugs] Any opionions about viz key bugs?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-21 12:59:54 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1410  Message: 1411

The right-angle bug is the winner!

73
DR

On Wed, Apr 21, 2010 at 7:58 AM, John <qrpcwguy@...> wrote:

> I have seen some videos of both the right angle and the vertical bug.
> Without actually trying them, the vertical looks like it might not be as
> useful as the right angle. Any comments?
> -John N4HNO
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1412. RE: [cw_bugs] VIZ bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-04-22 11:13:23 UTC
From: Pete Theer
Topic: 1412  Message: 1412

Hi John,

I've never tried the right angle (although it looks appealing) , but I have a vertical and love it. It's adjustable to slower (about 8 WPM) than any other bug I have (and I have over 50. See: http://www.k5prt.com/equipment_bugs.html ) Tom's (K4VIZ's) email communications is super, too. He bends over backwards to support his products.

Pete
K5PRT

> 1a. Any opionions about viz key bugs?
> From: John

Pete Theer K5PRT
Kempner, Texas
Reply to: K5PRT@...
Please visit my website: http://www.k5prt.com
Licensed since 1961
ARRL & AMSAT Life Member
10X# 13678, FISTS# 13919
SKCC# 4695, NAQCC# 3129
SWOT# 294, SOC# 858, 3905 CC

# 1413. Interesting discovery

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-04 16:30:49 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci - IK0IXI, NB1V
Topic: 1413  Message: 1413
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

HI.
I found Martin's Vibroplex ad on March 1905 issue of "The Railroad Telegrapher", suppl. 16. That ad is from O.T. Anderson of Chicago, IL, a typewriters and morse keys vendor. It talks about a "new mechanical sending machine - the Martin Vibroplex, Price 12.00 USD".....

It is 3 months before the "The Commercial Telegraphers' Journal", June 1905, Pg. 32, first official announce according to WW7P's list (http://www.la.ca.us/frandy/dating.html ).

Best 73 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI - NB1V
---

"No borders, only horizons." - A. Earhart (1897-1937?)
---
INORC # 462 - HSC # 1888 - VHSC # 403 - SHSC # 175 - EHSC # 104
Marine Funker # 1Ø47 - Marconi Club Loano # 355 - GRT # Ø16
SPAR CW Rag Chewers' Club # 484 - AGCW # 356Ø
SideSwiper Net member - Flying Pigs QRP Club # 2391
Essex CW ARC # Ø13 - Radio Officers List
GQRP # 12Ø95 - IQRP # 737 - NAQCC # 4Ø93 - FISTS # 14539
SKCC # 4331 - CTC # 2532 - ARMI # A-49Ø - ARS # 1218
ARRL Member - ARI Member - Sez. Alto Lazio
Sito Web: www.ik0ixi.it
Email: ik0ixi@...
ik0ixi@...

# 1414. RFTB tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-16 20:30:58 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1213  Message: 1414

The May 2010 edition of the Run For the Bacon is tonight, Sunday May 16th.

Please join us for a fun time. If you're not too pooped to pop from Dayton, that is! But hopefully, those of us who were not able to attend can celebrate your good time and Diz's good fortune (he won an SDR-1500 at the QRP Banquet!) by getting on the air and filling it with Flying Pigs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1415. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-17 02:38:49 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1415

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for May, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201005.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1416. FWD - New Vibroplex Collectors Association

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-19 13:38:18 UTC
From: nt9k_skcc
Topic: 1416  Message: 1416

HI guys.
Finally the VCA - Vibroplex Collectors Association web site is born !!

www.vibroplexcollectors.org

Be patient for poor contents, it's too young yet.....;-)
Just some links and the members list, but I hope to fill the gap
soon....your help is precious.
Please feel free to send me links, your Vibroplex collection pictures and any bug related document you believe nice to see on VCA web site.

The association is open to anyone collect bugs, even in small number. Each will be assigned a membership number and will receive a membership certificate for free in ,pdf format. Just send email to:
info at vibroplexcollectors.org

Regards
Best 73 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI - NB1V

# 1417. Latest posts.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-23 01:41:09 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1417  Message: 1417

Dear friends, with wishes for a great weekend and asking forgiveness for off topic, I report the latest posts from my blog:

HV5PUL Vatican City CONTEST

Tributo a Guglielmo Marconi

All this and much more you are in:

http://py2zjcwblog.blogspot.com/

A toast to all that I visit, my thanks.

# 1418. Wire for keys

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-24 05:20:22 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1418  Message: 1418

Hi, Charlie and All -

Because of a favorable (?) deal at a hamfest, I acquired a large quantity of 3-conductor Belden cable (#22 stranded, color-coded black, green, and red, with a gray jacket). The wire is tinned, but the cable is not shielded (no problem there, unless there is so much RF in your shack that your fillings can copy CW). The outer diameter is about 5/32" - very good for 1/4" plugs, but a little tight for some 1/8" plugs (altough they can be modified).

I will send to Charlie and/or anyone on the list a USPS flat rate Priority Mail box stuffed with the cable. All I ask is that you send me the $4.90 cost of the shipping. If you send a flat $5.00, I will donate the dime to charity.

This offer good while supplies last. (I have always wanted to say that.) I have enough to last until 2020 or so.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1419. Latest posts.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-25 04:01:04 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1417  Message: 1419

Latest posts.

Friends, with wishes for a great Tuesday, announce the latest posts from my blog:

-Si tous les gars du monde

RECALLING THE CONQUEST OF-TEP-DARDODE VHF DX GROUP, IN SHIPMENT IN ISLAND COMPRIDA GG64BX

Long Island DX-EXPEDITION-GG64BX DART GROUP FOR VHF-DX-CLOSE TO GOD

-OK2KJI-YU1HQR

SV1BKN IN-CW

-Si tous les gars du monde

http://py2zjcwblog.blogspot.com/

A toast to all that I visit, my thanks.

73 `s all

By ROB PY2ZJ

# 1420. Latest posts.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-05-29 15:14:40 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1417  Message: 1420

Latest posts.

Dear friends, with wishes for a great weekend and asking forgiveness for off topic, I report the latest posts from my blog:

Jérôme Paradis perdus F5TUE-too-PARADISE LOST.

Repairing the top of a tower 600 m.

All this and much more you are in:

http://py2zjcwblog.blogspot.com/

A toast to all that I visit, my thanks.

# 1421. Latest posts.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-01 23:07:27 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1417  Message: 1421

Latest posts.

Friends, with wishes for a great Wednesday, and asking loss ample off topic announce the latest posts from my blog:

K4T - Expedition Dry Tortugas Video

OY6FRA-SEASON CLUB Faro-Panoramic View - CLICK AND DRAG THE IMAGE TO VIEW THE IMAGE FOR PANORAMICA.NAVEGUE IMAGEM.TELA FULL IS BETTER
All this and much more you are in:

http://py2zjcwblog.blogspot.com/

A toast to all that I visit, my thanks.

73 `s all

# 1422. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-06 22:34:27 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1422

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for June, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201006.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1423. Latest posts.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-08 02:07:46 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1417  Message: 1423

Latest posts.

Friends, with wishes for a great weekend and asking forgiveness for off topic, I report the latest posts from my blog:

-CQ AURORA. Aurora Movie with Au QSO.

-THE PRESENCE OF WOMEN IN HAM RADIO

All this and much more you are in :

http://py2zjcwblog.blogspot.com/

To all that I toast to your trip, thank you.

73 `s all

# 1424. Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 14:56:55 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1424  Message: 1424

Have you bought a new Vibroplex lately?
Well, my xyl, bless her heart, bought me a new, shiny Vibroplex Iambic Deluxe for my birthday a few days ago. Nice key. BUT, I'm sending it back to HRO. Why? There is no Vibroplex embossed brass nameplate, as we've come to know it, on my key. Instead, there is the cheesiest, thin, flat, silkscreened (painted) label with a punched serial number.
I could not believe my eyes!! So, I called Scott Robbins (new Vibroplex owner) and told him how dissappointed I was and pointed out that his website still shows fine photos of the various Vibroplex keys with their traditional embossed brass nameplates.
His excuse for the change? -- he has not been able to find anyone to produce the embossed brass labels, or the numbering! Perhaps the guys who did it for Mitch retired when he did??
I reminded Scott of the "Vibroplex collectibility" pitch in his literature. I, frankly, don't see my new key with its cheesy printed label, EVER being collectible. I asked Scott if all Vibros would be sporting the new painted label, to which he replied "yes".
With my xyl's kind permission, we will be travelling to HRO on Saturday to return my key and trade for something "nicer".
Guys and gals, your old Vibroplex keys (bugs, straights, or paddles) just became a lot more valuable.
Looks like the end of an era has come.
I can't believe Scott is proud to own production of this sorry excuse for a "Vibroplex".
73, Milt k4oso

# 1425. Re: Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 15:17:43 UTC
From: andy_kd4ukw
Topic: 1424  Message: 1425

Milt,

It sounds as if you have a TRUE collectible... one of the very few Vibroplexes ever produced without a brass nameplate! That makes it practically unique, even though you don't like the cheapening of the product.

Andy KD4UKW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Have you bought a new Vibroplex lately?
> Well, my xyl, bless her heart, bought me a new, shiny Vibroplex Iambic Deluxe for my birthday a few days ago. Nice key. BUT, I'm sending it back to HRO. Why? There is no Vibroplex embossed brass nameplate, as we've come to know it, on my key. Instead, there is the cheesiest, thin, flat, silkscreened (painted) label with a punched serial number.
> I could not believe my eyes!! So, I called Scott Robbins (new Vibroplex owner) and told him how dissappointed I was and pointed out that his website still shows fine photos of the various Vibroplex keys with their traditional embossed brass nameplates.
> His excuse for the change? -- he has not been able to find anyone to produce the embossed brass labels, or the numbering! Perhaps the guys who did it for Mitch retired when he did??
> I reminded Scott of the "Vibroplex collectibility" pitch in his literature. I, frankly, don't see my new key with its cheesy printed label, EVER being collectible. I asked Scott if all Vibros would be sporting the new painted label, to which he replied "yes".
> With my xyl's kind permission, we will be travelling to HRO on Saturday to return my key and trade for something "nicer".
> Guys and gals, your old Vibroplex keys (bugs, straights, or paddles) just became a lot more valuable.
> Looks like the end of an era has come.
> I can't believe Scott is proud to own production of this sorry excuse for a "Vibroplex".
> 73, Milt k4oso
>

# 1426. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 15:21:58 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1424  Message: 1426

Did you read my entire post? ALL Vibroplexes (according to Scott Robbins, owner) will have the new label.
Milt
In a message dated 6/17/2010 11:18:48 AM Eastern Daylight Time, kd4ukw@... writes:

Milt,

It sounds as if you have a TRUE collectible... one of the very few Vibroplexes ever produced without a brass nameplate! That makes it practically unique, even though you don't like the cheapening of the product.

Andy KD4UKW

# 1427. Re: Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 15:35:12 UTC
From: andy_kd4ukw
Topic: 1424  Message: 1427

Milt,

Yes, I read your post. I just failed to take my comments to their logical conclusion:

If plastic nameplates are the future of Vibroplex, sales will probably plummet and you will have a very rare key indeed.

You can keep it new in the box in the back of a closet and hope it appreciates in 20 years. Meanwhile you can buy another key to use daily! ;-)

Andy

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, k4oso@... wrote:
>
>
> Did you read my entire post? ALL Vibroplexes (according to Scott Robbins,
> owner) will have the new label.
> Milt
> In a message dated 6/17/2010 11:18:48 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
> kd4ukw@... writes:
>
> Milt,
>
> It sounds as if you have a TRUE collectible... one of the very few
> Vibroplexes ever produced without a brass nameplate! That makes it practically
> unique, even though you don't like the cheapening of the product.
>
> Andy KD4UKW
>

# 1428. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 16:33:07 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1424  Message: 1428

Andy,
My xyl says the same thing. . Hi
Milt

In a message dated 6/17/2010 11:35:27 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
kd4ukw@... writes:

Milt,

Yes, I read your post. I just failed to take my comments to their logical
conclusion:

If plastic nameplates are the future of Vibroplex, sales will probably
plummet and you will have a very rare key indeed.

You can keep it new in the box in the back of a closet and hope it
appreciates in 20 years. Meanwhile you can buy another key to use daily! ;-)

Andy

# 1429. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Nameplate - Cheap, Silkscreened, and Flimsy

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-17 15:26:46 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1424  Message: 1429

Milt thanks for the heads up.

I too am very disappointed to read this.

I would think that there should be someone

out there in Tenn that can punch out some brass

plates. Perhaps it's cost cutting.

Nevertheless, a Happy Birthday to you.

My birthday is Saturday so I better que

the wife about this news. Hi..

73 Fernando N2FQ/6
On Jun 17, 2010, at 7:56 AM, k4oso wrote:

> Have you bought a new Vibroplex lately?
> Well, my xyl, bless her heart, bought me a new, shiny Vibroplex
> Iambic Deluxe for my birthday a few days ago. Nice key. BUT, I'm
> sending it back to HRO. Why? There is no Vibroplex embossed brass
> nameplate, as we've come to know it, on my key. Instead, there is
> the cheesiest, thin, flat, silkscreened (painted) label with a
> punched serial number.
> I could not believe my eyes!! So, I called Scott Robbins (new
> Vibroplex owner) and told him how dissappointed I was and pointed
> out that his website still shows fine photos of the various
> Vibroplex keys with their traditional embossed brass nameplates.
> His excuse for the change? -- he has not been able to find anyone to
> produce the embossed brass labels, or the numbering! Perhaps the
> guys who did it for Mitch retired when he did??
> I reminded Scott of the "Vibroplex collectibility" pitch in his
> literature. I, frankly, don't see my new key with its cheesy
> printed label, EVER being collectible. I asked Scott if all Vibros
> would be sporting the new painted label, to which he replied "yes".
> With my xyl's kind permission, we will be travelling to HRO on
> Saturday to return my key and trade for something "nicer".
> Guys and gals, your old Vibroplex keys (bugs, straights, or paddles)
> just became a lot more valuable.
> Looks like the end of an era has come.
> I can't believe Scott is proud to own production of this sorry
> excuse for a "Vibroplex".
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
>

```
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
```

# 1430. Vibroplex .....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-18 00:58:06 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 1430  Message: 1430

I sent this to Vibroplex as a individual , not as a club rep .....

Scott ,

After hearing from another op of a Vibroplex he just bought and his confusion and anger about the new labels. If you can find another company to make the metal embossed plates for the Vibroplex models PLEASE do so. Most old timers and TRUE Bug lovers feel the true beauty and tradion of the Bugs and Paddles have been compromised by using a "stick on" label. I feel it would be in the companies best interest to find someone in a hurry as not to effect sales dramatically.

Wrinting this as only a true lover of Vibroplex and the fine products they stand for.

Sincerly,

George F. Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC # 2836T
Ogdensburg , NY

# 1431. RFTB - Happy Father's Day !!!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-19 19:49:38 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1431  Message: 1431

The June 2010 edition of the Run For the Bacon is tomorrow night, Sunday June 20th.

Please join us for a fun time. Hopefully you're not too pooped from the big Father's Day celebration at your house. If your Father's Day is like mine, you'll still be busy doing the chores to remind you that you are INDEED, a father! So at the end of the day, take some time for yourself and indulge a little bit with your favorite hobby and join the Flying Pigs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1432. Re: questions about early bases. and re-plating

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-20 21:42:30 UTC
From: yankee_auslander
Topic: 1404  Message: 1432

Thanks for the info. things got hectic and the project is on the back burner. the info is excellent and hope to finish it soon (selling the house and moving soon).
thanks.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Double plate of copper/nickel was used until about 1940, then it changed to
> triple plate of copper/nickel/chrome. Top parts were all plated and as an
> option, the base.
>
> Nickel bases were offered as an option from about 1915 until 1940,
> thereafter chrome was used on top parts and as an option, the base was
> triple plated with a chrome top plating.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

# 1433. Keeping it together

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-29 02:31:20 UTC
From: earl.kd5xb@gmail.com
Topic: 1433  Message: 1433

As many know, I drive an 18-wheeler cross-country. I'd like to bring a bug with me so I might get on the air more on CW -- this year's Field Day operation made me realize just how rusty I am!

I've tried bringing a bug with me in the past, but always found the arm laying on the base when I tried to use it -- somehow the pivot just releases the arm.

Now, I know bugs have been used in airplanes in flit, and I'd guess they've also been use on trains in motion, both of which can be pretty shakey, but I've never heard of any problem with bugs coming apart as mine have.

So how do you keep them together???

Tnx es 7 3
Earl
KD5XB
Sent on the Sprint® Now Network from my BlackBerry®

# 1434. Re: [cw_bugs] Keeping it together

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-06-29 02:57:29 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1433  Message: 1434

If you can vibrate loose the vibrator from the trunnion screws, you are really shaking.

I'd get some medium strength locktite thread lock and seal the trunnion screw at the top (the knurled adjustment nut) and seal the fixing screw that pushes against the lower trunnion screw. This screw is located under the vibrator arm at the base of the support yoke. You will need a very long slotted screwdriver to tighten this screw as you have to put the screwdriver through the damper and UNDER the vibrator and finally contacting the slot in the screw. Of course, you will have to remove the screw - or better yet, just back it out and apply the thread seal.

Do NOT use the permanent variety of Locktite or other thread sealant. You might want to take it apart.

Many have used plumbers putty (or electricians putty) formed in a thin "snake" and wrapped around the fixing thumb screws of the weights - you will be able to adjust them and the putty will make it not vibrate loose. If you always send with the same speed, you can set these with the removable type of thread seal like Locktite.

73

David N1EA

-30-

# 1435. OT: Need Craftronics CT-120 Manual or Documentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-07-15 23:20:01 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 1435  Message: 1435

Thanks for the bandwidth and your time.

73, Gary/K5JWK

# 1437. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-07-18 21:16:44 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1437

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for July, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201007.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1438. Ultimate "73" In-Line Morse Code Telegraph Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-07-22 23:39:07 UTC
From: ae4rv
Topic: 1438  Message: 1438

Has anyone seen or heard of this odd little bug?

http://cgi.ebay.com/Ultimate-73-In-Line-Morse-Code-Telegraph-Key-/250669183780?cmd=ViewItem&pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item3a5d0c3324

73 Geoff

# 1439. Bug Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-02 19:38:20 UTC
From: N4QLB Michael
Topic: 1439  Message: 1439

Well I just sold my paddles and I am looking for a bug to purchase. I am not a collector and am looking for one to use!
If you have one for sale or know of anyone please let me know.

Thanks,

Mike
N4QLB

n4qlb@...

www.n4qlb.com

www.twitter.com/n4qlb

www.twitter.com/cwkeys

# 1440. CWkeys on Twitter

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-02 20:28:22 UTC
From: N4QLB Michael
Topic: 1440  Message: 1440

Follow CW Keys on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/cwkeys

10 followers since yesterday.

# 1441. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Wanted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-03 04:40:52 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1439  Message: 1441

Mike,
What kind of bug are you looking for?
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 8/2/2010 3:39:32 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
n4qlb@... writes:

Well I just sold my paddles and I am looking for a bug to purchase. I am
not a collector and am looking for one to use!
If you have one for sale or know of anyone please let me know.

Thanks,

Mike
N4QLB

# 1442. Fw: Unable to deliver your message

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-03 05:08:36 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1442  Message: 1442
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Having a slight problem with the list, I'll try to get it fixed when I get home -- hopefully tomorrow.

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, 2 Aug 2010 20:54:34
To: Earl Needham<earl.kd5xb@gmail.com>
Subject: Fw: Unable to deliver your message

Dunno what's wrong here. Says I am not a member, yet it sends messages to me. Maybe it is the periods which make it think it is different from justonehill which it is not.

Fred

Would like to tell the guy looking for a bug that I have twenty from a silent key that need a home!

73
Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: "Yahoo! Groups" <notify@yahoogroups.com>
To: <just.one.hill@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2010 2:12 PM
Subject: Unable to deliver your message

>
> We are unable to deliver the message from <just.one.hill@gmail.com>
> to <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>.
>
> The email address used to send your message is not subscribed to this
> group. If you are a member of this group, please be aware that you may
> only send messages to this group using the email address(es) you have
> registered with Yahoo! Groups.
>
> If you would like to subscribe to this group:
> 1. visit
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/join
> -OR-
> 2. send email to cw_bugs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

>
> For further assistance, please visit
> http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/forms/general.html
>

# 1443. Getting a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-03 16:21:57 UTC
From: Michael Ferro
Topic: 1443  Message: 1443

In the past couple of months I've found two very good not-too-expensive bugs. One on eBay, a Vibroplex Lightning for $100. This one was made in the 70s and looks to me like it was never used. I had only to clean the contacts with metal polish. You can google "eBay Vibroplex." There always seem to be Vibroplexes for sale there, in great shape, for $100 or less. I also bought a $200 VizKey 90 Degree Bug from Tom K4VIZ. This is a handmade bug, of highly-refined design. It works exceedingly well and is very easy to adjust.

The best way to learn to use a bug is to slow it way down, so that it produces dits at approximately 4 dits per second. This is appropriate for sending at 10 to 12 wpm. You can slow a bug down by setting the dit paddle travel at 1/8 inch or more and making other adjustments accordingly. You will probably also have to add weight and/or extend the pendulum to get a bug to slow down sufficiently (most bugs like to run at a minimum speed of about 8 dits per second or 20 wpm). You can buy an "Extend-a-dot" from Vibroplex which will slow down various models; you need to get the one appropriate to the pendulum design--round or flat (Lightning). The VizKey 90 Degree Bug can be slowed by extending the pendulum by slipping a length of hardware-store brass tubing over it so the weight extends just beyond the edge of the key. A smaller piece of tubing inserted into the larger then accepts the weight. The VizKey can also be slowed to a more limited degree by moving the weight to the very end of the pendulum so that the damper intercepts the weight rather than the pendulum proper. The VizKey works fine adjusted like this.

Learning to use a bug requires mastering several very small movements of the hand and wrist. You can master this very quickly if your bug is making dits relatively slowly. If you try to learn the skill at higher speeds, it will be very challenging. As they say in so many areas of skill mastery, "to go fast, go slow."

# 1444. On getting a bug...

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-04 05:34:42 UTC
From: ferromichael@rocketmail.com
Topic: 1444  Message: 1444

In the past couple of months I've found two very good not-too-expensive bugs. One on eBay, a Vibroplex Lightning for $100. This one was made in the 70s and looks to me like it was never used. I had only to clean the contacts with metal polish. You can google "eBay Vibroplex." There always seem to be Vibroplexes for sale there, in great shape, for $100 or less. I also bought a $200 VizKey 90 Degree Bug from Tom K4VIZ. This is a handmade bug, of highly-refined design. It works exceedingly well and is very easy to adjust.

The best way to learn to use a bug is to slow it way down, so that it produces dits at approximately 4 dits per second. This is appropriate for sending at 10 to 12 wpm. You can slow a bug down by setting the dit paddle travel at 1/8 inch or more and making other adjustments accordingly. You will probably also have to add weight and/or extend the pendulum to get a bug to slow down sufficiently (most bugs like to run at a minimum speed of about 8 dits per second or 20 wpm). You can buy an "Extend-a-dot" from Vibroplex which will slow down various models; you need to get the one appropriate to the pendulum design--round or flat (Lightning). The VizKey 90 Degree Bug can be slowed by extending the pendulum by slipping a length of hardware-store brass tubing over it so the weight extends just beyond the edge of the key. A smaller piece of tubing inserted into the larger then accepts the weight. The VizKey can also be slowed to a more limited degree by moving the weight to the very end of the pendulum so that the damper intercepts the weight rather than the pendulum proper. The VizKey works fine adjusted like this.

Learning to use a bug requires mastering several very small movements of the hand and wrist. You can master this very quickly if your bug is making dits relatively slowly. If you try to learn the skill at higher speeds, it will be very challenging. As they say in so many areas of skill mastery, "to go fast, go slow."

# 1445. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-10 14:42:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1445

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for August, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201008.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1446. RFTB - This Sunday

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-08-14 02:13:31 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1446  Message: 1446

The August 2010 edition of the Run For the Bacon is this Sunday evening August 15th.

Please join us for a fun time. This will be the next to last RFTB for the Summer of 2010 - where has the time gone? Solar conditions have not been too abyssmal lately (CMEs notwithstanding), so hopefully the propagation muses will be with us and we'll have a grand ol' time!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1447. Latest Vibroplex bugs have non-traditional labels

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 14:11:34 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1447  Message: 1447

I understand from a different list that the latest offerings from Vibroplex have silk-screened labels instead of the more traditional embossed labels. You can see a bit of information at

<http://mailman.qth.net/pipermail/morsecode/2010-September/005127.html>

And a photo at

<http://www.skccgroup.com/nt9k/images/newvibroplexplates.JPG>

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 1448. Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 14:21:47 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1448  Message: 1448

That's just so sad. However, the label is just a small part of the item --
IF it's being bought to be used as a tool for CW -- which is probably not
the case since the demise of commercial CW some years ago.

I wonder if the current offerings still work the same or if they are being
cheapened in their action as well.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

On Sat, Sep 4, 2010 at 7:20 AM, w2blc <w2blc@...> wrote:

>
>
> There is a very interesting piece of a thread at
> http://mailman.qth.net/pipermail/morsecode/2010-September/005127.htmlregarding the new
logo-label that appears on new keys from Vibroplex.
>
> It appears to be a silk screen metal tag - totally different from the
> embossed tag traditionally used. In my mind, the new tag cheapens what was a
> high-class product.
>
> Do I have a financial interest in any of this? None at all. How to make the
> keys is not my affair, as I don't own the company. My interest is historical
> - I don't like to see classy pieces of history vanish.
>
> The change will cause a new Vibroplex collectable title - pre-silk screen
> label and post silk screen label.
>
> I can safely say that I will NOT ever purchase a new Vibroplex key with the
> new logo-label on it. I enjoy history - real history, not what is redesigned
> or rewritten. I'll continue using my "pieces of history."
>
>
>

# 1449. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 14:49:32 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1448  Message: 1449

Earl, You draw your own conclusions there. My guess is things that show are the last to be changed. If the new owner is "cheaping down" to save money, my guess is that other things will suffer also....like quality control/assurance, which is a fairly costly function in manufacturing.
73 OM, and keep truckin'!!!
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 9/4/2010 10:21:55 AM Eastern Daylight Time, earl.kd5xb@... writes:

I wonder if the current offerings still work the same or if they are being cheapened in their action as well.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 1450. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 15:00:03 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 1448  Message: 1450

Maybe the new tag is simply that the new owner is trying to keep his costs down in order to keep his product competitive. There seems to be lots of NOS bugs available with the embossed tag if the tag at is an issue.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h / 210.884.6926c

"Retirement means every day is a Saturday except Sunday."

"ATARI was always better than Commodore"

"Too many projects, not enough time."

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of k4oso@...
Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2010 9:50 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Earl, You draw your own conclusions there. My guess is things that show are the last to be changed. If the new owner is "cheaping down" to save money, my guess is that other things will suffer also....like quality control/assurance, which is a fairly costly function in manufacturing.

73 OM, and keep truckin'!!!

Milt k4oso

In a message dated 9/4/2010 10:21:55 AM Eastern Daylight Time, earl.kd5xb@... writes:

I wonder if the current offerings still work the same or if they are being cheapened in their action as well.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 1451. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 15:13:15 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1448  Message: 1451

Gary,
I think you may be missing the point, which is, Vibroplex's competition is Vibroplex. I have 8 high-quality Vibroplex keys from days gone by and they all have nice embossed brass nameplates. I will not settle for a flat silk screened nameplate. Besides, the cheesy nameplate is the canary in the coal mine as far as the quality of new Vibroplex keys is concerned.
My 2 cents,
Milt k4oso
In a message dated 9/4/2010 11:00:29 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
gharmon@... writes:

Maybe the new tag is simply that the new owner is trying to keep his costs down in order to keep his product competitive. There seems to be lots of NOS bugs available with the embossed tag if the tag at is an issue.
73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK

# 1452. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 15:21:00 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1448  Message: 1452

Well consider this:

Say I was looking to buy a paddle I can get a Bencher BY-1 at 110 bucks at Mtech.
But be paying Scott 150 bucks for a Brass Racer.

I think he is going to need to change more than the name plate if he wishes to become competitive.

Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

--- On Sat, 4/9/10, Gary H. Harmon, Jr. <gharmon@...> wrote:

From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr. <gharmon@...>
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Saturday, 4 September, 2010, 15:00

Maybe the new tag is simply that the new owner is trying to keep his costs down in order to keep his product competitive.  There seems to be lots of NOS bugs available with the embossed tag if the tag at is an issue.  73,  Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK6003 ArchwoodSan Antonio, TX 78239-1504210.657.1549h / 210.884.6926c  "Retirement means every day is a Saturday except Sunday.""ATARI was always better than Commodore""Too many projects, not enough time."  From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of k4oso@...
Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2010 9:50 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: [skcc] Vibroplex loosing tradition  Earl, You draw your own conclusions there.  My guess is things that show are the last to be changed.  If the new owner is "cheaping down" to save money, my guess is that other things will suffer also....like quality control/assurance, which is a fairly costly function in manufacturing.73 OM, and keep truckin'!!!Milt k4oso  In a message dated 9/4/2010 10:21:55 AM Eastern Daylight Time, earl.kd5xb@... writes:I wonder if the current offerings still work the same or if they are being cheapened in their action as well.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

# 1453. Re: [cw_bugs] Latest Vibroplex bugs have non-traditional labels-- Quote From W4PA inserted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 15:26:00 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1447  Message: 1453

Here is the official word.

On Jun 18, 2010, at 3:15 PM, Scott Robbins wrote:

> Yes - someone posted on the FISTS email listserv that Vibroplex is
> using a stick-on decal for serial number plates. Which is, of
> course, incorrect. The nameplates are metal, two color
> silkscreened, stamped serial numbering, fastened to the base with
> rivets.
>
> No stickers.
>
> Also cc:ed this to N2FQ's email address I see below.
>
> 73
> Scott
> W4PA

So.. my order is in for the second run of the Collins series.

73 Fernando N2FQ/6

On Sep 4, 2010, at 7:11 AM, Earl Needham wrote:

>
>
> I understand from a different list that the latest offerings from
> Vibroplex have silk-screened labels instead of the more traditional
> embossed labels. You can see a bit of information at
>
> <http://mailman.qth.net/pipermail/morsecode/2010-September/
> 005127.html>
>
> And a photo at
>
> <http://www.skccgroup.com/nt9k/images/newvibroplexplates.JPG>
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
>
>
>
>

# 1454. Re: Latest Vibroplex bugs have non-traditional labels

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 16:04:36 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1447  Message: 1454

Those new labels are not for me. And wonder if they are going to have a way to sell you a new label when the paint wears off and all you have left is a serial number on the tag.

73....Walter - K5EST - Missouri

# 1455. Paddle for sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-04 16:15:26 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1455  Message: 1455

From: "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@gmail.com>

To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Sat, 4 Sep 2010 09:50:50
Subject: Re: Vibroplex loosing tradition

□
I have a historic biege Vibroplex paddle for sale for forty bux plus shipping from a silent key.  Contact me off list if you are interested.

73,  Fred - kt5x

---

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

# 1457. test message

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 02:48:28 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1457  Message: 1457

please ignore.

# 1458. Re: [cw_bugs] test message

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 02:49:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1457  Message: 1458

I think it's fixed.

All: Fred has been having problems posting. We've been trying to figure it out so please ignore these last couple of posts.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...>
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Sat, 4 Sep 2010 20:48:28
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] test message

please ignore.

# 1459. Re: [cw_bugs] test message

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 03:02:12 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1457  Message: 1459

GREAT Thanks!

Fred - kt5x

I think it's fixed.

All: Fred has been having problems posting. We've been trying to figure it out so please ignore these last couple of posts.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

---

# 1460. test message

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 04:29:33 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1457  Message: 1460

please ignore. TNX

# 1461. keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 18:18:20 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1461  Message: 1461

I represent the widow of a silent key. There remain available some very nice antique keys at good prices. Write directly for list if you may have an interest in them.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 1462. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 18:46:41 UTC
From: Pete Ferrand
Topic: 1461  Message: 1462

Hi, please send along the list.

tnx es 73,

-Pete
WB2QLL

-----Original Message-----
>From: Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...>
>Sent: Sep 5, 2010 2:18 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] keys available
>
>I represent the widow of a silent key. There remain available some very nice antique keys at good prices. Write directly for list if you may have an interest in them.
>
>73, Fred - kt5x
>

# 1463. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-05 21:28:49 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1461  Message: 1463

Sure Pete, see below ...

N6WU (SK) any reasonable offer considered … ALL proceeds go to Kerry's widow.

make offers to Fred < Just.One.Hill@... > pictures of any key may be requested.

Sue requests fifteen dollars shipping and packaging for one key, $20 for two.

(Sale price indicated in parenthesis)

a.. # 59047 1916 Racer, C1 plate, earliest known cloverleaf frame …….… ($150)
b.. # 64435 1917 Original, C-2 plate, one weight ……pending …… ($65)
c.. # 65643 1917 Original, C-2 plate, no weight ……..… ($65)
d.. # 70047 1919 Original, C-2 plate, one weight ……. ($65)
e.. # 71332 1919 Original, C-3 plate, one large non-original weight …….. ($55)
f.. # 75377 1920 Original, C-3 plate, T-damper, bug decal, one weight …… ($125)
g.. # 80712 1921 Original, one weight ……pending…… ($65)
h.. # 82211 1922 Original, D-1 plate, excellent pin striping, 2 weights …….. ($75)
i.. # 83433 1923 black Original, substitute large weight …….. ($65)
j.. # 108906 1935 Junior, fair condition, Japanned, no weight …… ($65)
k.. # 116944 1940 Original, black crinkle, odd finger pieces, no wt ……. ($45)
l.. # 119116 1941 Early Lightning deluxe. Scarce ……. ($85)
m.. # 120275 1941 Original, black crinkle, no weight ……pending…….. ($45)
n.. # 140255 1945 Dlx Original, battleship grey, tin plate, modern form …….. ($50)
o.. # 155766 1950 Original, black crinkle, no wt ……($35)
p.. # 174537 1954 Deluxe Original, 1 wt, missing plastic decoration…….($40)
q.. # 189012 1957 Original, black crinkle, ……pending……..($40)
r.. # 239799 1969 BEIGE single lever paddle……pending……..…….. ($40)

Also available from my collection:

1.. # 203946 1958 standard grey blue racer, 2 wts, excellent ……( $95)
2.. # 131427 1944 EXTREMELY scarce, only 31 known in collections, I have the list of all owners, WW II deluxe blue racer, battleship grey base, U-shaped damper, red finger pieces, almost never seen species …… ($195)
3.. Black Widow mini-paddle with custom vegetable ivory finger pieces. Includes bracket for mounting on the Hendricks kit PFR radio …… ($40)
4.. Eico Code Practic4e Oscillator from 1950's with facsimile manual …… ($20)
5.. Nye-Viking Master straight key, pin-striped ……. ($30)
6.. Australian Buzza model 100 bug with leather case, perfect condition. Bug is known as dual lever, and is somewhat similar in operation to the Vibroplex Lightning. It is extremely scarce and in never used condition! …….($300)
7.. British GPO key from Singapore, turn of the century. This is the straight key that reverses current, has a horn pump handle, and crystal glass viewing cover of the complex mechanism. Plating is nickel as it was made for the Colonies. Scarce anywhere, rare in US ..($250)
8.. Bent Dow one of the most exotic bugs ever made, entire mechanism built on a slant. Only

nineteen known to exist, and half of those are family keepsakes, unavailable to collectors. One of the rarest and sought after bugs, it has sold for as high as five thousand… ($1,500)

----- Original Message -----
From: Pete Ferrand
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, September 05, 2010 12:46 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Hi, please send along the list.

tnx es 73,

-Pete
WB2QLL

-----Original Message-----
>From: Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...>
>Sent: Sep 5, 2010 2:18 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] keys available
>
>I represent the widow of a silent key. There remain available some very nice antique keys at good prices. Write directly for list if you may have an interest in them.
>
>73, Fred - kt5x
>

# 1464. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-06 00:54:30 UTC
From: George Osier
Topic: 1461  Message: 1464

Hi Fred !!!

Do you have a pic of the 1958 Blue Racer ????

Thanks !!!

George Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

gosier@...

----- Original Message -----
From: Fred Maas
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, September 05, 2010 5:28 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

□

Sure Pete, see below ...

N6WU (SK) any reasonable offer considered … ALL proceeds go to Kerry’s widow.

make offers to Fred < Just.One.Hill@... > pictures of any key may be requested.

Sue requests fifteen dollars shipping and packaging for one key, $20 for two.

(Sale price indicated in parenthesis)

a.. # 59047 1916 Racer, C1 plate, earliest known cloverleaf frame …….… ($150)
b.. # 64435 1917 Original, C-2 plate, one weight ……pending …… ($65)
c.. # 65643 1917 Original, C-2 plate, no weight ……..… ($65)
d.. # 70047 1919 Original, C-2 plate, one weight ……. ($65)
e.. # 71332 1919 Original, C-3 plate, one large non-original weight …….. ($55)
f.. # 75377 1920 Original, C-3 plate, T-damper, bug decal, one weight …… ($125)
g.. # 80712 1921 Original, one weight ……pending…… ($65)
h.. # 82211 1922 Original, D-1 plate, excellent pin striping, 2 weights …….. ($75)
i.. # 83433 1923 black Original, substitute large weight …….. ($65)
j.. # 108906 1935 Junior, fair condition, Japanned, no weight …… ($65)
k.. # 116944 1940 Original, black crinkle, odd finger pieces, no wt ……. ($45)
l.. # 119116 1941 Early Lightning deluxe. Scarce ……. ($85)
m.. # 120275 1941 Original, black crinkle, no weight ……pending…….. ($45)
n.. # 140255 1945 Dlx Original, battleship grey, tin plate, modern form …….. ($50)
o.. # 155766 1950 Original, black crinkle, no wt ……($35)
p.. # 174537 1954 Deluxe Original, 1 wt, missing plastic decoration…….($40)
q.. # 189012 1957 Original, black crinkle, ……pending……..($40)
r.. # 239799 1969 BEIGE single lever paddle……pending……..…….. ($40)

Also available from my collection:

1.. # 203946 1958 standard grey blue racer, 2 wts, excellent ……( $95)
2.. # 131427 1944 EXTREMELY scarce, only 31 known in collections, I have the list of all owners, WW II deluxe blue racer, battleship grey base, U-shaped damper, red finger pieces, almost never seen species …… ($195)
3.. Black Widow mini-paddle with custom vegetable ivory finger pieces. Includes bracket for mounting on the Hendricks kit PFR radio …… ($40)
4.. Eico Code Practic4e Oscillator from 1950's with facsimile manual …… ($20)
5.. Nye-Viking Master straight key, pin-striped ……. ($30)
6.. Australian Buzza model 100 bug with leather case, perfect condition. Bug is known as dual lever, and is somewhat similar in operation to the Vibroplex Lightning. It is extremely scarce and in never used condition! …….($300)
7.. British GPO key from Singapore, turn of the century. This is the straight key that reverses current, has a horn pump handle, and crystal glass viewing cover of the complex mechanism. Plating is nickel as it was made for the Colonies. Scarce anywhere, rare in US ..($250)
8.. Bent Dow one of the most exotic bugs ever made, entire mechanism built on a slant. Only nineteen known to exist, and half of those are family keepsakes, unavailable to collectors. One of the rarest and sought after bugs, it has sold for as high as five thousand… ($1,500)

----- Original Message -----
From: Pete Ferrand
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, September 05, 2010 12:46 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Hi, please send along the list.

tnx es 73,

-Pete
WB2QLL

-----Original Message-----
>From: Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...>
>Sent: Sep 5, 2010 2:18 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: [cw_bugs] keys available
>
>I represent the widow of a silent key. There remain available some very nice antique keys at good prices. Write directly for list if you may have an interest in them.
>
>73, Fred - kt5x
>

---

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 8.5.441 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/3115 - Release Date: 09/05/10 06:34:00

# 1465. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-06 01:24:21 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1461  Message: 1465
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Yes, here it is. And I made a styrofoam suspension system for shipping it...

□

Hi Fred !!!

Do you have a pic of the 1958 Blue Racer ????

Thanks !!!

George Osier , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

gosier@twcny.rr.com

# 1466. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-06 16:42:30 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1461  Message: 1466

Hi Fred,
I'll take the 58 Racer if its still available.
73, Milt
Enjoyed our qso yesterday

# 1467. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-06 17:33:20 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1461  Message: 1467
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Me too, thanks Milt. Your bug fist is a pleasure to copy. Lemme see if I can attach a photo of the old Meco I was using.

Sure, it's yours. send $110 to include shipping to:

Fred Maas
36 Seton Village Rd
Santa Fe, NM 87508

To what address do you want the key shipped?

----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 10:42 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Hi Fred,
I'll take the 58 Racer if its still available.
73, Milt
Enjoyed our qso yesterday

# 1468. Re: [cw_bugs] keys available

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-06 18:49:17 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1461  Message: 1468

Thanks Fred,
The check is on the way. My mailing address is:

Milton B. Coleman Sr.
12144 Victoria Hills Rd.
Rockville, VA 23146

In a message dated 9/6/2010 10:35:24 AM Pacific Daylight Time,
just.one.hill@... writes:

Me too, thanks Milt. Your bug fist is a pleasure to copy. Lemme see if I
can attach a photo of the old Meco I was using.

Sure, it's yours. send $110 to include shipping to:

Fred Maas
36 Seton Village Rd
Santa Fe, NM 87508

# 1469. A E Currie Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-11 20:54:18 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1469  Message: 1469

Afternoon

My friend has this unusual bug, anyone care to look at the link and perhaps shed some light on who A E Currie was? did he make many bugs or was this some one off garden shed job?

http://www.db.net/gallery/ottawa_bug/

Regards

Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

# 1470. Possible change in group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-12 00:08:54 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1470  Message: 1470

I'm seeing some changes in SOME groups and mailing lists on Yahoo.
Thankfully it hasn't happened here yet -- but I'm asking everybody who
has put photos and other files on this group to be sure and back them up
because the groups that have been changed are losing their archives!

I'm looking into using Google instead as it doesn't seem to be
changing -- yet. No idea if it will or won't.

If you wish to see what the new look is -- take at look at the DX
Labs group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dxlab/>

Vy 7 3
Earl

--
KD5XB -- Earl Needham
Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT

# 1471. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-13 22:21:34 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1471

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

This coming Wednesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for September, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201009.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1472. RFTB - Last one for Summer 2010

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-09-18 01:52:29 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1472  Message: 1472

The September 2010 edition of the Run For the Bacon is this Sunday evening.

Please join us for a fun time. This is the last RFTB for the Summer of 2010 - where has the time gone? There's a new sunspot making its way toward us from beyond the sun's limb; so maybe we'll get some decent propagation.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612

# 1473. NAQCC 6th Anniversary Event

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-10-09 00:57:25 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1473  Message: 1473

NAQCC 6th Anniversary Special Event Stations Operation.

Tom/WY3H (NAQCC President) and John/K3WWP (NAQCC VP) would like to invite all operators to help the North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC) celebrate its Sixth Anniversary.

How?

By working their ten special event stations N1A, N2A, N3A.....N9A, N0A (one from each of the ten USA call areas) which will be active from 0000z October 11th through 2400z October 17th. A handsome certificate and/or QSL card is available to everyone who works any or all of the N#A stations and requests one or both. All ten stations will be active in the NAQCC sprint on the 12th (13th UTC).

Full details including an operating schedule and how to request the certificate and QSL are on the "6th Anniversary Special Event Stations Operation" page on the club Web site - search "NAQCC" in your favorite search engine, or follow this link to their Web site (home.windstream.net/yoel/main_n3a.html).

Join them in celebrating their Sixth Anniversary, share the fun and earn a few certificates and special QSLs!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1474. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-10-11 23:52:25 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1474

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

This coming Tuesday evening will be the monthly NAQCC Sprint for October, 2010.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201010.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

REMINDER: Our 6th Anniversary Special Event Stations Operation takes place this year from 0000z October 11th through 2400z October 17th. Once again we will be using 10 special N#A callsigns and offering special QSL cards and certificates. There is still time to sign up your station and operate using one of the special N#A callsigns (must be QRP). Everyone is welcome to give these special event stations a contact, no matter what power you are running. Full information and details for the 2010 NAQCC Anniversary Event, QSL cards and certificates can be found at:
http://home.windstream.net/yoel/main_n3a.html

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1475. PSSST - RFTB tomorrow night - pass it down!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-10-17 03:24:21 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1475  Message: 1475

If you're not too pooped from the QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party, then join in on the RFTB fun as a way to wind down and slowly cool off those calloused CW fingertips!

Propagation has been decent as of late; and if you're like me, I hate it when the bands suddenly go dead after a contest. So join the Piggies and help us stir up the ionosphere for just a lil' while longer.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

Da rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1476. Test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-13 16:16:03 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1476  Message: 1476

Test - no list activity seen for a while.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

# 1477. Re: [cw_bugs] Test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-13 16:59:04 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1476  Message: 1477

Hi Earl,
Must be going through a dry spell.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/13/2010 8:16:15 AM Pacific Standard Time,
earl.kd5xb@... writes:

Test - no list activity seen for a while.

7 3
Earl

# 1478. Re: [cw_bugs] Test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-13 17:00:08 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1476  Message: 1478

Earl,
I'm doing it both ways, to see if it will come through.
Milt k4oso

Test - no list activity seen for a while.

7 3
Earl

# 1479. Re: [cw_bugs] Test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-14 00:51:08 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1476  Message: 1479

Earl and Milt,

We have just moved into a new house. No station is setup yet. I did erect a portable antenna in the backyard for some Sunday afternoon fun. We are too busy cleaning and painting. The first antenna to go up will be a temporary 160m helical.
My E.F. Johnson, 114-500 rests atop a pile of ??? with an oscillator. Each time I walk by it I tap out a sentence or two.
Have fun guys.
Steve, NU7T

# 1480. Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-14 18:04:34 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1480  Message: 1480
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Let's make some CHATTER here... ;-)

Fellow bug aficionados (who likely spell better than I do) ... I expect many of you are familiar with both Frank, W7IS, and his Extenda-Dot. I don't know if he is selling these are not, but may. Anyway, he kindly sent me one for my opinion.

Well, frankly, (sorry), Frankly, I wasn't satisfied with it. (Not that it isn't a great idea that works, but I am rarely satisfied with anything as it arrives ;-) The bug had to be completely readjusted to put it on or off. When in use, the whole lever was canted to the side because of the thickness of the barrel of the extenda-dot between the lever and the damper.

But Frank was adamant that this thing much improved the quality of the dits made by spreading the weight out across the length of the vibrating lever. I decided to modify the device. I put it lengthwise into a vise (maybe it's a vice, but I digress), and filed away one side of the tube, such that when installed, the damper wheel can rest against the lever itself, not the tube.

Results:

* it goes on and off a bug without a need to readjust the bug.

* The trombone effect can extend the lever a lot thus slowing the bug as much as one could ever want. In fact, with one small weight up near the vibrator, and one small (aluminum) weight at the far end, most of my bugs will slow to 15 wpm or speed to 40 wpm, varies by bug, but typical. I can hardly expect that isn't a good range for almost anyone.

* the quality of dits made by this arrangement is an improvement for any bug I have tried.

I am attaching photos of the arrangement which shows the extenda-dot in case you aren't familiar, my filing modification, and how it looks on a lever. The bug shown, not much is visible in the close-up, is a 1910 Double-Lever. But the bugs I LOVE it on are the Racers and the Juniors which have shorter levers on which to locate weights, and are thus typically, a bit fast.

73, Fred KT5X

WWW.KT5X.COM

P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.

# 1481. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-14 22:52:34 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1480  Message: 1481

Cool beans, Fred. I've been using a cap on each bug (and switching around since I don't have enough caps). I'm gonna implement that one (sp?) right away.
Tnx, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/14/2010 10:04:34 AM Pacific Standard Time, just.one.hill@... writes:

P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.

# 1482. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 00:58:03 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1482

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time which is Thursday 0130-0330Z time.

Please note your local time stays the same, but because of the switch back to Standard time, the UTC/Z time is different.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201011.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1483. Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 03:37:57 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1483  Message: 1483

Hi, All -

???? Have been silent, but lurking, as I work on a new family of bugs that I call? "balanced bug."? I have made videos of two of them (so far), for which the URL's are listed below -

The first is a bug designed for use in the shack -

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eggX60OEPk&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

The second is for use either in the shack or in the field -

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TG_J57LOWE&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

?? The design (six versions so far) used the ball-pivot mechanism that I have used in other instruments, and are built around a statically-balanced pendulum that is not sensitive to the effects of gravity.? Speed can be varied from 5 to 30+ wpm with a single adjustment that has no effect on the dot-weight. I will be writing up the project sometime soon, and there are more videos to come.? I apologize for the length of the two videos - I get long-winded.? Since the narration is in CW by the bugs themselves, it does take some time.

?? At the Ft. Wayne (IN) hamfest today, I saw yet another design for a slower-downer for conventional bugs.? Its design avoids conflicts with the damper mechanism, but there is quite a bit of overhang at the front of the bug.? While not quite as easily adjustable as the "Bug Tamer", it works well and its maker (his name escapes me) is working on a few more refinements.

?? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1484. Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 06:05:06 UTC
From: Pete Ferrand
Topic: 1483  Message: 1484

In case anyone wants to track down the maker of the bug slower-downer (he didn't have a name for it) it's:

http://www.normsfab.com/

Norm's Fabrication in Adrian MI. The device is not on the web page. Price at the show was $25 with versions for both round and flat shafted Vibroplex bugs.

I also thought they worked OK and were of a simple functional design that should be reliable.

-Pete
WB2QLL
Somers, WI

-----Original Message-----
From: Richard Meiss
Sent: Nov 14, 2010 9:37 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Hi, All -

????; Have been silent, but lurking, as I work on a new family of bugs that I call? "balanced bug."? I have made videos of two of them (so far), for which the URL's are listed below -

The first is a bug designed for use in the shack -

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eggX60OEPk&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

The second is for use either in the shack or in the field -

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TG_J57LOWE&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

?? The design (six versions so far) used the ball-pivot mechanism that I have used in other instruments, and are built around a statically-balanced pendulum that is not sensitive to the effects of gravity.? Speed can be varied from 5 to 30+ wpm with a single adjustment that has no effect on the dot-weight.? I will be writing up the project sometime soon, and there are more videos to come.? I apologize for the length of the two videos - I get long-winded.? Since the narration is in CW by the bugs themselves, it does take some time.

?? At the Ft. Wayne (IN) hamfest today, I saw yet another design for a slower-downer for conventional bugs. Its design avoids conflicts with the damper mechanism, but there is quite a bit of overhang at the front of the bug.? While not quite as easily adjustable as the "Bug Tamer", it works well and its maker (his name escapes me) is working on a few more refinements.

?? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1485. Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 13:57:50 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1480  Message: 1485

Sometimes things seem so obvious AFTER one thinks of it, hi hi!

I mount a jack on a little piece of perfboard on each key, then changing keys is as easy as plug-in. I have thought of two easy ways for jack mounting. One is a small piece of perfbaord with two holes the distance apart of the binding posts. The other, that I haven't done yet, but will with my next restoration project, is one that mounts to the two screws that hold the damper, such that the jack is against the back of the base.

Fred

Cool beans, Fred. I've been using a cap on each bug (and switching around since I don't have enough caps). I'm gonna implement that one (sp?) right away.
Tnx, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/14/2010 10:04:34 AM Pacific Standard Time, just.one.hill@... writes:
P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.

# 1486. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 14:56:52 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1480  Message: 1486

If using a vintage bug for CW work, heres one to try, copy the original
set up in a telegraph station, mount a straight key of that vinatge for
your pumper, it will have the strip contact on it already that the bug
plugs into, then equip each bug with the cord and wedge that was
used with it originally, just slide the bug over and plug it into the
straight keys contact. Probably many dont know that is why the
contact strip is on the top of the straight key in the first place.
If you were a telegrapher of CW op of that era you furnished your
own key, and most took it home every day in a case, when you
got to work you just plugged into the existing furnished straight
key and away you went.
I do it for grins to preserve the nostalgia of the bugs, bugs were
telegraph instruments mainly.
Or for real fun hook up a telegraph sounder to the audio of your
radio and copy the CW from the sounder, be sure and use a
tobacco can to amplify the clicks and impart the real sound of
telegraph.
Sorry guess that shows my age to remember seeing and hearing
the real thing. 73 Merv K9FD
>
>
> Sometimes things seem so obvious AFTER one thinks of it, hi hi!
> I mount a jack on a little piece of perfboard on each key, then
> changing keys is as easy as plug-in. I have thought of two easy ways
> for jack mounting. One is a small piece of perfbaord with two holes
> the distance apart of the binding posts. The other, that I haven't
> done yet, but will with my next restoration project, is one that
> mounts to the two screws that hold the damper, such that the jack is
> against the back of the base.
> Fred
>
>
> Cool beans, Fred. I've been using a cap on each bug (and
> switching around since I don't have enough caps). I'm gonna
> implement that one (sp?) right away.
> Tnx, Milt k4oso
> In a message dated 11/14/2010 10:04:34 AM Pacific Standard Time,
> just.one.hill@... <mailto:just.one.hill@...> writes:
>
> P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig
> through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable,
> across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with
> rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast,
> they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it
> takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug

> cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.
>
>
>
>

# 1487. Dot extewnder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 19:22:28 UTC
From: Ted
Topic: 1487  Message: 1487

Hello Rich (WB9LPU),
The device you saw at Fort Wayne was made and sold by "Norm's Fabrication"(normsfab.com). It's really sweet, I have five of them on various bugs and they can be ordered for round stock levers or flat stock levers. I move my "dot extender" back on the lever and it barely extends beyond the damper. Norm is a neighbor of mine and designed the "dot extender" for a group of us "bug nuts." I'm trying to get Norm to have these chrome plated rather than the brass they're made of.

Ted K8AQM

# 1488. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 22:03:03 UTC
From: Jim Garrison
Topic: 1480  Message: 1488

Hello Milt: What value capacitor do you use across the bug contacts? Just curious...thanks es73,
Jim
K5M

---
From: "k4oso@..." <k4oso@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sun, November 14, 2010 5:52:34 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Cool beans, Fred. I've been using a cap on each bug (and switching around since I don't have enough caps). I'm gonna implement that one (sp?) right away.
Tnx, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/14/2010 10:04:34 AM Pacific Standard Time, just.one.hill@... writes:
P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.

# 1489. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 22:32:45 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1480  Message: 1489

Hi Jim,
I use a 104M, which is .001 microfarad cap.
73, Milt

In a message dated 11/15/2010 2:03:05 PM Pacific Standard Time,
jamesgarrisonart@... writes:

Hello Milt: What value capacitor do you use across the bug contacts?
Just curious...thanks es73,
Jim
K5M

# 1490. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 22:47:26 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1480  Message: 1490

I use a .1 to get enough capcity to take some doing to discharge between stratches.

Fred

Hi Jim,
I use a 104M, which is .001 microfarad cap.
73, Milt

In a message dated 11/15/2010 2:03:05 PM Pacific Standard Time, jamesgarrisonart@...
writes:
Hello Milt: What value capacitor do you use across the bug contacts? Just curious...thanks
es73,
Jim
K5M

# 1491. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 23:03:31 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1480  Message: 1491

Um...no;

102 would be a .001

104 **is** a .1

- Bob
w9ya

On Mon, Nov 15, 2010 at 3:32 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi Jim,
> I use a 104M, which is .001 microfarad cap.
> 73, Milt
>
> In a message dated 11/15/2010 2:03:05 PM Pacific Standard Time,
> jamesgarrisonart@... writes:
>
> Hello Milt: What value capacitor do you use across the bug contacts? Just
> curious...thanks es73,
> Jim
> K5M
>
>
>
>
>

# 1492. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 23:20:56 UTC
From: Jim Garrison
Topic: 1480  Message: 1492

Thanks to all.

Jim
K5MSY
http://www.youtube.com/user/k5msy

---
From: w9ya <w9ya@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Mon, November 15, 2010 6:03:31 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Um...no;

102 would be a .001

104 **is** a .1

- Bob
w9ya

On Mon, Nov 15, 2010 at 3:32 PM, <k4oso@...> wrote:

>
>Hi Jim,
>I use a 104M, which is .001 microfarad cap.
>73, Milt
>
>In a message dated 11/15/2010 2:03:05 PM Pacific Standard Time,
>jamesgarrisonart@... writes:
>Hello Milt: What value capacitor do you use across the bug contacts? Just
>curious...thanks es73,
>>Jim
>>K5M
>
>
>

# 1493. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-15 23:28:52 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1480  Message: 1493

Bob,
I'm no authority, but I thought the following to be the case:
104M is .001 microfarad +- 20%
103M is .01 microfarad +- 20%
102M is .1 microfarad +- 20%

73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/15/2010 3:03:34 PM Pacific Standard Time,
w9ya@... writes:

Um...no;

102 would be a .001

104 **is** a .1

- Bob
w9ya

# 1494. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 00:05:13 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 1480  Message: 1494

Small value capacitors are labeled in pF (x10^-12 F), and the power of ten is indicated by the third digit. So the common 104, for example, is read as two digit value and a power of ten exponent. E.g.,

104 = 10 x 10^4 pF
= 100000 x 10^-12 F
= 10^-7 F
= 10^-1 x 10^-6 F
= 0.1 uF

Tolerance and other info is indicated by additional letters.

Happy capping! :-) 73,
Mike ab3ap

On 11/15/10 18:28, k4oso@... wrote:
>
>
> Bob,
> I'm no authority, but I thought the following to be the case:
> 104M is .001 microfarad +- 20%
> 103M is .01 microfarad +- 20%
> 102M is .1 microfarad +- 20%
>
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
>
>
> In a message dated 11/15/2010 3:03:34 PM Pacific Standard Time,
> w9ya@... writes:
>
> Um...no;
>
>
> 102 would be a .001
>
> 104 **is** a .1
>
> - Bob
> w9ya
>
>
>
>
>

# 1495. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 00:08:53 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1480  Message: 1495

Um...yes !

MUCH better...

- Bob
w9ya

On Mon, Nov 15, 2010 at 5:05 PM, Mike Markowski <mike.ab3ap@...>wrote:

> Small value capacitors are labeled in pF (x10^-12 F), and the power of
> ten is indicated by the third digit. So the common 104, for example, is
> read as two digit value and a power of ten exponent. E.g.,
>
> 104 = 10 x 10^4 pF
> = 100000 x 10^-12 F
> = 10^-7 F
> = 10^-1 x 10^-6 F
> = 0.1 uF
>
> Tolerance and other info is indicated by additional letters.
>
> Happy capping! :-) 73,
> Mike ab3ap
>
> On 11/15/10 18:28, k4oso@... wrote:
> >
> >
> > Bob,
> > I'm no authority, but I thought the following to be the case:
> > 104M is .001 microfarad +- 20%
> > 103M is .01 microfarad +- 20%
> > 102M is .1 microfarad +- 20%
> >
> > 73, Milt k4oso
> >
> >
> >
> > In a message dated 11/15/2010 3:03:34 PM Pacific Standard Time,
> > w9ya@... writes:
> >
> > Um...no;
> >
> >
> > 102 would be a .001
> >
> > 104 **is** a .1

> >
> > - Bob
> > w9ya
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1496. Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 00:48:34 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1480  Message: 1496

Hello to all...

Respectfully...

Frank, W7IS does in fact sell the extendadot system and has been for several years.

I have been using his system on several of my faster bugs for some time now and I'm very satisfied with the materials, design and performance of his product.

As I understand it, no one specifically asked him to build a device for the masses but he took it upon himself to do just that. The extendadot is a refreshingly simple yet well thought out design.

I for one, have no issue re-adjusting a bug and can accomplish this feat in under a minute. Adding the extendadot arm and subsequent adjustments, was/were no problem for me.

I also believe removing one side of the tube not only ruined the original design but likely created a "hack" look that I would certainly never display to anyone. I think I would be embarrased to show something like that publicly. If one had run it through a C&C machine and could produce your enhanced design over an over again, then maybe one might would consider it not a "hack".

Mr. Mass, I would like to think that Frank will respect your opinion as to his designs but, don't be surprised if he doesn't send you another example to critique. Then again, with Frank, maybe he'd send you another because that's the type of gentleman he is.

Well... that should get the "group" going again I'd say!

Again, respectfully...

Bob
VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Let's make some CHATTER here... ;-)
>
>
> Fellow bug aficionados (who likely spell better than I do) ... I expect many of you are familiar with both Frank, W7IS, and his Extenda-Dot. I don't know if he is selling these are not, but may. Anyway, he kindly sent me one for my opinion.
>
> Well, frankly, (sorry), Frankly, I wasn't satisfied with it. (Not that it isn't a great idea that works, but I am rarely satisfied with anything as it arrives ;-) The bug had to be completely readjusted to put it on or off. When in use, the whole lever was canted to the side because of the thickness of the barrel of the extenda-dot between the lever and the damper.
>

> But Frank was adamant that this thing much improved the quality of the dits made by spreading the weight out across the length of the vibrating lever. I decided to modify the device. I put it lengthwise into a vise (maybe it's a vice, but I digress), and filed away one side of the tube, such that when installed, the damper wheel can rest against the lever itself, not the tube.
>
> Results:
>
> * it goes on and off a bug without a need to readjust the bug.
>
> * The trombone effect can extend the lever a lot thus slowing the bug as much as one could ever want. In fact, with one small weight up near the vibrator, and one small (aluminum) weight at the far end, most of my bugs will slow to 15 wpm or speed to 40 wpm, varies by bug, but typical. I can hardly expect that isn't a good range for almost anyone.
>
> * the quality of dits made by this arrangement is an improvement for any bug I have tried.
>
> I am attaching photos of the arrangement which shows the extenda-dot in case you aren't familiar, my filing modification, and how it looks on a lever. The bug shown, not much is visible in the close-up, is a 1910 Double-Lever. But the bugs I LOVE it on are the Racers and the Juniors which have shorter levers on which to locate weights, and are thus typically, a bit fast.
>
> 73, Fred KT5X
>
> WWW.KT5X.COM
>
> P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.
>

# 1497. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 01:40:14 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1480  Message: 1497

I've yet to see any of Freds craftsmanship that looks remotely hacked.I share Freds annoyance with the amount of adjustment to the key that putting on/taking off an extendadot or similar devices that move the pendulum towards the dot contact.
His modification appears to be very worthwhile.
Regards
Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

--- On Tue, 16/11/10, ve3akv <ve3akv@...> wrote:

From: ve3akv <ve3akv@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tuesday, 16 November, 2010, 0:48

Hello to all...

Respectfully...

Frank, W7IS does in fact sell the extendadot system and has been for several years.

I have been using his system on several of my faster bugs for some time now and I'm very satisfied with the materials, design and performance of his product.

As I understand it, no one specifically asked him to build a device for the masses but he took it upon himself to do just that. The extendadot is a refreshingly simple yet well thought out design.

I for one, have no issue re-adjusting a bug and can accomplish this feat in under a minute. Adding the extendadot arm and subsequent adjustments, was/were no problem for me.

I also believe removing one side of the tube not only ruined the original design but likely created a "hack" look that I would certainly never display to anyone. I think I would be embarrased to show something like that publicly. If one had run it through a C&C machine and could produce your enhanced design over an over again, then maybe one might would consider it not a "hack".

Mr. Mass, I would like to think that Frank will respect your opinion as to his designs but, don't be surprised if he doesn't send you another example to critique. Then again, with Frank, maybe he'd send you another because that's the type of gentleman he is.

Well... that should get the "group" going again I'd say!

Again, respectfully...

Bob

VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:

>

> Let's make some CHATTER here... ;-)

>

>

> Fellow bug aficionados (who likely spell better than I do) ... I expect many of you are familiar with both Frank, W7IS, and his Extenda-Dot. I don't know if he is selling these are not, but may. Anyway, he kindly sent me one for my opinion.

>

> Well, frankly, (sorry), Frankly, I wasn't satisfied with it. (Not that it isn't a great idea that works, but I am rarely satisfied with anything as it arrives ;-) The bug had to be completely readjusted to put it on or off. When in use, the whole lever was canted to the side because of the thickness of the barrel of the extenda-dot between the lever and the damper.

>

> But Frank was adamant that this thing much improved the quality of the dits made by spreading the weight out across the length of the vibrating lever. I decided to modify the device. I put it lengthwise into a vise (maybe it's a vice, but I digress), and filed away one side of the tube, such that when installed, the damper wheel can rest against the lever itself, not the tube.

>

> Results:

>

> * it goes on and off a bug without a need to readjust the bug.

>

> * The trombone effect can extend the lever a lot thus slowing the bug as much as one could ever want. In fact, with one small weight up near the vibrator, and one small (aluminum) weight at the far end, most of my bugs will slow to 15 wpm or speed to 40 wpm, varies by bug, but typical. I can hardly expect that isn't a good range for almost anyone.

>

> * the quality of dits made by this arrangement is an improvement for any bug I have tried.

>

> I am attaching photos of the arrangement which shows the extenda-dot in case you aren't familiar, my filing modification, and how it looks on a lever. The bug shown, not much is visible in the close-up, is a 1910 Double-Lever. But the bugs I LOVE it on are the Racers and the Juniors which have shorter levers on which to locate weights, and are thus typically, a bit fast.

>

> 73, Fred KT5X

>

> WWW.KT5X.COM

>

> P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.

>

# 1498. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 02:06:35 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1480  Message: 1498

Respectfully,
It seems to me Fred has found a way to make a good thing even better, and much easier to use and remove without extra adjustments. Many times, the first prototype of a maching/tool has somewhat of a "hack" look, to be refined in the finished product. That is not a negative thing. If the product works better, I think its a cause for celebration.
Congratulations to Frank for his super idea, and to Fred for a refinement that makes that idea even better. Now, on to the polishers and finishers for that "showroom" look.

73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/15/2010 4:48:39 PM Pacific Standard Time, ve3akv@... writes:

Hello to all...

Respectfully...

Frank, W7IS does in fact sell the extendadot system and has been for several years.

I have been using his system on several of my faster bugs for some time now and I'm very satisfied with the materials, design and performance of his product.

As I understand it, no one specifically asked him to build a device for the masses but he took it upon himself to do just that. The extendadot is a refreshingly simple yet well thought out design.

I for one, have no issue re-adjusting a bug and can accomplish this feat in under a minute. Adding the extendadot arm and subsequent adjustments, was/were no problem for me.

I also believe removing one side of the tube not only ruined the original design but likely created a "hack" look that I would certainly never display to anyone. I think I would be embarrased to show something like that publicly. If one had run it through a C&C machine and could produce your enhanced design over an over again, then maybe one might would consider it not a "hack".

Mr. Mass, I would like to think that Frank will respect your opinion as to his designs but, don't be surprised if he doesn't send you another example to critique. Then again, with Frank, maybe he'd send you another because that's the type of gentleman he is.

Well... that should get the "group" going again I'd say!

Again, respectfully...

Bob
VE3AKV

# 1499. Re: [cw_bugs] Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 02:10:28 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1480  Message: 1499

Thanks, Mike for the great explanation of how the labelling works.
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 11/15/2010 4:05:29 PM Pacific Standard Time,
mike.ab3ap@... writes:

Small value capacitors are labeled in pF (x10^-12 F), and the power of
ten is indicated by the third digit. So the common 104, for example, is
read as two digit value and a power of ten exponent. E.g.,

104 = 10 x 10^4 pF
= 100000 x 10^-12 F
= 10^-7 F
= 10^-1 x 10^-6 F
= 0.1 uF

Tolerance and other info is indicated by additional letters.

Happy capping! :-) 73,
Mike ab3ap

# 1500. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 02:19:42 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1480  Message: 1500

Actually, Frank said he did the same thing, but preferred the simpler way. It doesn't look like anything, as you can't see it unless looking for it with a magnifying glass ha-hah!

Good luck, Pal,

73 Fred

----- Original Message -----
From: ve3akv
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 5:48 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion

Hello to all...

Respectfully...

Frank, W7IS does in fact sell the extendadot system and has been for several years.

I have been using his system on several of my faster bugs for some time now and I'm very satisfied with the materials, design and performance of his product.

As I understand it, no one specifically asked him to build a device for the masses but he took it upon himself to do just that. The extendadot is a refreshingly simple yet well thought out design.

I for one, have no issue re-adjusting a bug and can accomplish this feat in under a minute. Adding the extendadot arm and subsequent adjustments, was/were no problem for me.

I also believe removing one side of the tube not only ruined the original design but likely created a "hack" look that I would certainly never display to anyone. I think I would be embarrased to show something like that publicly. If one had run it through a C&C machine and could produce your enhanced design over an over again, then maybe one might would consider it not a "hack".

Mr. Mass, I would like to think that Frank will respect your opinion as to his designs but, don't be surprised if he doesn't send you another example to critique. Then again, with Frank, maybe he'd send you another because that's the type of gentleman he is.

Well... that should get the "group" going again I'd say!

Again, respectfully...

Bob
VE3AKV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Let's make some CHATTER here... ;-)

>
>
> Fellow bug aficionados (who likely spell better than I do) ... I expect many of you are familiar with both Frank, W7IS, and his Extenda-Dot. I don't know if he is selling these are not, but may. Anyway, he kindly sent me one for my opinion.
>
> Well, frankly, (sorry), Frankly, I wasn't satisfied with it. (Not that it isn't a great idea that works, but I am rarely satisfied with anything as it arrives ;-) The bug had to be completely readjusted to put it on or off. When in use, the whole lever was canted to the side because of the thickness of the barrel of the extenda-dot between the lever and the damper.
>
> But Frank was adamant that this thing much improved the quality of the dits made by spreading the weight out across the length of the vibrating lever. I decided to modify the device. I put it lengthwise into a vise (maybe it's a vice, but I digress), and filed away one side of the tube, such that when installed, the damper wheel can rest against the lever itself, not the tube.
>
> Results:
>
> * it goes on and off a bug without a need to readjust the bug.
>
> * The trombone effect can extend the lever a lot thus slowing the bug as much as one could ever want. In fact, with one small weight up near the vibrator, and one small (aluminum) weight at the far end, most of my bugs will slow to 15 wpm or speed to 40 wpm, varies by bug, but typical. I can hardly expect that isn't a good range for almost anyone.
>
> * the quality of dits made by this arrangement is an improvement for any bug I have tried.
>
> I am attaching photos of the arrangement which shows the extenda-dot in case you aren't familiar, my filing modification, and how it looks on a lever. The bug shown, not much is visible in the close-up, is a 1910 Double-Lever. But the bugs I LOVE it on are the Racers and the Juniors which have shorter levers on which to locate weights, and are thus typically, a bit fast.
>
> 73, Fred KT5X
>
> WWW.KT5X.COM
>
> P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.
>

# 1501. Re: Suggestion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-16 03:44:57 UTC
From: ve3akv
Topic: 1480  Message: 1501

Fred...

Ok...I know when to cut some slack.

Regards,

73 - Bob

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Actually, Frank said he did the same thing, but preferred the simpler way. It doesn't look like anything, as you can't see it unless looking for it with a magnifying glass ha-hah!
>
> Good luck, Pal,
>
> 73 Fred
>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: ve3akv
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 5:48 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Suggestion
>
>
>
> Hello to all...
>
> Respectfully...
>
> Frank, W7IS does in fact sell the extendadot system and has been for several years.
>
> I have been using his system on several of my faster bugs for some time now and I'm very satisfied with the materials, design and performance of his product.
>
> As I understand it, no one specifically asked him to build a device for the masses but he took it upon himself to do just that. The extendadot is a refreshingly simple yet well thought out design.
>
> I for one, have no issue re-adjusting a bug and can accomplish this feat in under a minute. Adding the extendadot arm and subsequent adjustments, was/were no problem for me.
>
> I also believe removing one side of the tube not only ruined the original design but likely created a "hack" look that I would certainly never display to anyone. I think I

would be embarrased to show something like that publicly. If one had run it through a C&C machine and could produce your enhanced design over an over again, then maybe one might would consider it not a "hack".
>
> Mr. Mass, I would like to think that Frank will respect your opinion as to his designs but, don't be surprised if he doesn't send you another example to critique. Then again, with Frank, maybe he'd send you another because that's the type of gentleman he is.
>
> Well... that should get the "group" going again I'd say!
>
> Again, respectfully...
>
> Bob
> VE3AKV
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@> wrote:
> >
> > Let's make some CHATTER here... ;-)
> >
> >
> > Fellow bug aficionados (who likely spell better than I do) ... I expect many of you are familiar with both Frank, W7IS, and his Extenda-Dot. I don't know if he is selling these are not, but may. Anyway, he kindly sent me one for my opinion.
> >
> > Well, frankly, (sorry), Frankly, I wasn't satisfied with it. (Not that it isn't a great idea that works, but I am rarely satisfied with anything as it arrives ;-) The bug had to be completely readjusted to put it on or off. When in use, the whole lever was canted to the side because of the thickness of the barrel of the extenda-dot between the lever and the damper.
> >
> > But Frank was adamant that this thing much improved the quality of the dits made by spreading the weight out across the length of the vibrating lever. I decided to modify the device. I put it lengthwise into a vise (maybe it's a vice, but I digress), and filed away one side of the tube, such that when installed, the damper wheel can rest against the lever itself, not the tube.
> >
> > Results:
> >
> > * it goes on and off a bug without a need to readjust the bug.
> >
> > * The trombone effect can extend the lever a lot thus slowing the bug as much as one could ever want. In fact, with one small weight up near the vibrator, and one small (aluminum) weight at the far end, most of my bugs will slow to 15 wpm or speed to 40 wpm, varies by bug, but typical. I can hardly expect that isn't a good range for almost anyone.
> >
> > * the quality of dits made by this arrangement is an improvement for any bug I have tried.
> >
> > I am attaching photos of the arrangement which shows the extenda-dot in case you aren't familiar, my filing modification, and how it looks on a lever. The bug shown, not much is visible in the close-up, is a 1910 Double-Lever. But the bugs I LOVE it on are the Racers

and the Juniors which have shorter levers on which to locate weights, and are thus typically, a bit fast.
> >
> > 73, Fred KT5X
> >
> > WWW.KT5X.COM
> >
> > P.S. 'Nother suggestion: I plug all my bugs in to the rig through a single cable. I have a large cap on that cable, across the bug contacts. There is always a scratchiness with rubbing contacts, and the new solid state radios are so fast, they try to follow it. The loading of the capacitor is all it takes to eliminate this problem. One capacitor on the bug cable takes care of all bugs, no need to mount a cap on each bug.
> >
>

# 1502. Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-17 01:07:19 UTC
From: Tony Morgan
Topic: 1483  Message: 1502

I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
round and flat.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/14/2010 10:05 PM, Pete Ferrand wrote:
>
> In case anyone wants to track down the maker of the bug slower-downer
> (he didn't have a name for it) it's:
>
> http://www.normsfab.com/
>
> Norm's Fabrication in Adrian MI. The device is not on the web page.
> Price at the show was $25 with versions for both round and flat
> shafted Vibroplex bugs.
>
> I also thought they worked OK and were of a simple functional design
> that should be reliable.
>
> -Pete
> WB2QLL
> Somers, WI
>
>
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Richard Meiss
> Sent: Nov 14, 2010 9:37 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Have been silent, but lurking, as I work on a new family of
> bugs that I call "balanced bug." I have made videos of two of
> them (so far), for which the URL's are listed below -
>
> The first is a bug designed for use in the shack -
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eggX60OEPk&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

>
> The second is for use either in the shack or in the field -
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TG_J57LOWE&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL
>
> The design (six versions so far) used the ball-pivot mechanism
> that I have used in other instruments, and are built around a
> statically-balanced pendulum that is not sensitive to the effects
> of gravity. Speed can be varied from 5 to 30+ wpm with a single
> adjustment that has no effect on the dot-weight. I will be
> writing up the project sometime soon, and there are more videos to
> come. I apologize for the length of the two videos - I get
> long-winded. Since the narration is in CW by the bugs themselves,
> it does take some time.
>
> At the Ft. Wayne (IN) hamfest today, I saw yet another design
> for a slower-downer for conventional bugs. Its design avoids
> conflicts with the damper mechanism, but there is quite a bit of
> overhang at the front of the bug. While not quite as easily
> adjustable as the "Bug Tamer", it works well and its maker (his
> name escapes me) is working on a few more refinements.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1503. Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-17 14:12:05 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1483  Message: 1503

Vari-Speed?

Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@gmail.com>
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Tue, 16 Nov 2010 17:07:19
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
round and flat.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/14/2010 10:05 PM, Pete Ferrand wrote:
>
> In case anyone wants to track down the maker of the bug slower-downer
> (he didn't have a name for it) it's:
>
> http://www.normsfab.com/
>
> Norm's Fabrication in Adrian MI. The device is not on the web page.
> Price at the show was $25 with versions for both round and flat
> shafted Vibroplex bugs.
>
> I also thought they worked OK and were of a simple functional design
> that should be reliable.
>
> -Pete
> WB2QLL
> Somers, WI
>
>
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Richard Meiss
> Sent: Nov 14, 2010 9:37 PM

> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> Have been silent, but lurking, as I work on a new family of
> bugs that I call "balanced bug." I have made videos of two of
> them (so far), for which the URL's are listed below -
>
> The first is a bug designed for use in the shack -
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eggX60OEPk&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL
>
> The second is for use either in the shack or in the field -
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TG_J57LOWE&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL
>
> The design (six versions so far) used the ball-pivot mechanism
> that I have used in other instruments, and are built around a
> statically-balanced pendulum that is not sensitive to the effects
> of gravity. Speed can be varied from 5 to 30+ wpm with a single
> adjustment that has no effect on the dot-weight. I will be
> writing up the project sometime soon, and there are more videos to
> come. I apologize for the length of the two videos - I get
> long-winded. Since the narration is in CW by the bugs themselves,
> it does take some time.
>
> At the Ft. Wayne (IN) hamfest today, I saw yet another design
> for a slower-downer for conventional bugs. Its design avoids
> conflicts with the damper mechanism, but there is quite a bit of
> overhang at the front of the bug. While not quite as easily
> adjustable as the "Bug Tamer", it works well and its maker (his
> name escapes me) is working on a few more refinements.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1504. Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-17 15:13:36 UTC
From: Tony Morgan
Topic: 1483  Message: 1504

You are right Earl.
Thanks for the correction.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
>
> Vari-Speed?
>
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting
> from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry
>
> ---
> *From: * Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...>
> *Sender: * cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Date: *Tue, 16 Nov 2010 17:07:19 -0800
> *To: *<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *ReplyTo: * cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject: *Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity
>
> I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
> round and flat.
>
> 73,
>
> Tony W7GO
>
> On 11/14/2010 10:05 PM, Pete Ferrand wrote:
>
>> In case anyone wants to track down the maker of the bug slower-downer
>> (he didn't have a name for it) it's:
>>
>> http://www.normsfab.com/
>>
>> Norm's Fabrication in Adrian MI. The device is not on the web page.
>> Price at the show was $25 with versions for both round and flat
>> shafted Vibroplex bugs.
>>
>> I also thought they worked OK and were of a simple functional design
>> that should be reliable.
>>
>> -Pete

>> WB2QLL
>> Somers, WI
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Richard Meiss
>> Sent: Nov 14, 2010 9:37 PM
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Test - Some activity
>>
>>
>>
>> Hi, All -
>>
>> Have been silent, but lurking, as I work on a new family of
>> bugs that I call "balanced bug." I have made videos of two of
>> them (so far), for which the URL's are listed below -
>>
>> The first is a bug designed for use in the shack -
>>
>> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eggX60OEPk&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL
>>
>> The second is for use either in the shack or in the field -
>>
>> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TG_J57LOWE&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL
>>
>> The design (six versions so far) used the ball-pivot mechanism
>> that I have used in other instruments, and are built around a
>> statically-balanced pendulum that is not sensitive to the effects
>> of gravity. Speed can be varied from 5 to 30+ wpm with a single
>> adjustment that has no effect on the dot-weight. I will be
>> writing up the project sometime soon, and there are more videos
>> to come. I apologize for the length of the two videos - I get
>> long-winded. Since the narration is in CW by the bugs
>> themselves, it does take some time.
>>
>> At the Ft. Wayne (IN) hamfest today, I saw yet another design
>> for a slower-downer for conventional bugs. Its design avoids
>> conflicts with the damper mechanism, but there is quite a bit of
>> overhang at the front of the bug. While not quite as easily
>> adjustable as the "Bug Tamer", it works well and its maker (his
>> name escapes me) is working on a few more refinements.
>>
>> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>>
>>
>>

>>
>>
>>
>

# 1505. Re: Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-17 17:40:44 UTC
From: earl_needham
Topic: 1483  Message: 1505

Didn't really meanit as a correction, more as a clarification, since I was confused and thought maybe the "new guy" had changed his product lines! <G>

Vy 7 3
Earl

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...> wrote:
>
> You are right Earl.
> Thanks for the correction.
>
> 73,
>
> Tony W7GO
>
> On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
> >
> > Vari-Speed?
> >
> >
> > I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
> > round and flat.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Tony W7GO

# 1506. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-18 02:09:00 UTC
From: Tony Morgan
Topic: 1483  Message: 1506

FB Earl,
Somewhere in the back of my old mind I had remembered a "bug tamer".
For some reason I plugged that in, do you remember it?
Anyway I have both the flat & round Vari-Speed ant am very happy with them.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 9:40 AM, earl_needham wrote:
>
> Didn't really meanit as a correction, more as a clarification, since I
> was confused and thought maybe the "new guy" had changed his product
> lines! <G>
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
> Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...> wrote:
> >
> > You are right Earl.
> > Thanks for the correction.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Tony W7GO
> >
> > On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
> > >
> > > Vari-Speed?
> > >
> > >
> > > I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
> > > round and flat.
> > >
> > > 73,
> > >
> > > Tony W7GO
>
>

# 1507. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-18 06:26:50 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1483  Message: 1507

I remember the term, too, but I'm no longer sure what one is. Pix at http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/04/kd8jhj-bug-tamer.html show something like the Extend-a-Dot, but other pages show the Vari-Speed while calling it the Bug Tamer. Maybe it has become a word like "Kleenex" -- people use the brand name for ALL tissues.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@gmail.com>
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Wed, 17 Nov 2010 18:09:00
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

FB Earl,
Somewhere in the back of my old mind I had remembered a "bug tamer".
For some reason I plugged that in, do you remember it?
Anyway I have both the flat & round Vari-Speed ant am very happy with them.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 9:40 AM, earl_needham wrote:
>
> Didn't really meanit as a correction, more as a clarification, since I
> was confused and thought maybe the "new guy" had changed his product
> lines! <G>
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
> Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...> wrote:
> >
> > You are right Earl.
> > Thanks for the correction.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Tony W7GO
> >

> > On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
> > >
> > > Vari-Speed?
> > >
> > >
> > > I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
> > > round and flat.
> > >
> > > 73,
> > >
> > > Tony W7GO
>
>

# 1508. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-18 16:04:47 UTC
From: Tony Morgan
Topic: 1483  Message: 1508

Found out that Vibroplex sold the "bug-tamer" before the "Vari-Speed.
It was dis-continued.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 10:26 PM, Earl Needham wrote:
>
> I remember the term, too, but I'm no longer sure what one is. Pix at
> http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/04/kd8jhj-bug-tamer.html show
> something like the Extend-a-Dot, but other pages show the Vari-Speed
> while calling it the Bug Tamer. Maybe it has become a word like
> "Kleenex" -- people use the brand name for ALL tissues.
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
>
> KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting
> from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry
>
> ---
> *From: * Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...>
> *Sender: * cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Date: *Wed, 17 Nov 2010 18:09:00 -0800
> *To: *<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *ReplyTo: * cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject: *Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity
>
> FB Earl,
> Somewhere in the back of my old mind I had remembered a "bug tamer".
> For some reason I plugged that in, do you remember it?
> Anyway I have both the flat & round Vari-Speed ant am very happy with
> them.
>
> 73,
>
> Tony W7GO
>
> On 11/17/2010 9:40 AM, earl_needham wrote:
>
>> Didn't really meanit as a correction, more as a clarification, since
>> I was confused and thought maybe the "new guy" had changed his
>> product lines! <G>
>>
>> Vy 7 3

>> Earl
>>
>> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
>> Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...> wrote:
>> >
>> > You are right Earl.
>> > Thanks for the correction.
>> >
>> > 73,
>> >
>> > Tony W7GO
>> >
>> > On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
>> > >
>> > > Vari-Speed?
>> > >
>> > >
>> > > I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
>> > > round and flat.
>> > >
>> > > 73,
>> > >
>> > > Tony W7GO
>>
>

# 1509. Vibroplex Bug Tamer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-18 17:37:24 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1509  Message: 1509

Hello

I have one of these and consider it as an aid to someone new to a bug.

Whereas the Vari-speed is for someone familiar with the bug

and uses it to change the speed on the fly to accommodate the speed of

the other operator.

A search on Youtube will yield some videos.

Just my opinion.

enjoy these critters.. hi.

73 N2FQ/6

# 1510. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-18 17:47:14 UTC
From: Troy W6HV
Topic: 1483  Message: 1510

The old “bug-tamer” is simple to make from hobby shop brass tubing. I’ve made several and just added some photos to the photo section.
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Tony Morgan
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:04 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

Found out that Vibroplex sold the "bug-tamer" before the "Vari-Speed.
It was dis-continued.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 10:26 PM, Earl Needham wrote:

I remember the term, too, but I'm no longer sure what one is. Pix at http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/04/kd8jhj-bug-tamer.html show something like the Extend-a-Dot, but other pages show the Vari-Speed while calling it the Bug Tamer. Maybe it has become a word like "Kleenex" -- people use the brand name for ALL tissues.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

---

From: Tony Morgan mailto:1desertdweller@...m
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Wed, 17 Nov 2010 18:09:00 -0800
To: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
ReplyTo: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Test - Some activity

FB Earl,
Somewhere in the back of my old mind I had remembered a "bug tamer".
For some reason I plugged that in, do you remember it?
Anyway I have both the flat & round Vari-Speed ant am very happy with them.

73,

Tony W7GO

On 11/17/2010 9:40 AM, earl_needham wrote:

Didn't really meanit as a correction, more as a clarification, since I was confused and thought maybe the "new guy" had changed his product lines! <G>

Vy 7 3
Earl

--- In mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com, Tony Morgan mailto:1desertdweller@... wrote:
>
> You are right Earl.
> Thanks for the correction.
>
> 73,
>
> Tony W7GO
>
> On 11/17/2010 6:12 AM, Earl Needham wrote:
> >
> > Vari-Speed?
> >
> >
> > I guess everyone knows Vibroplex has the bug tamer available in both
> > round and flat.
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Tony W7GO

# 1511. Ten minute bug tamer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-19 01:31:14 UTC
From: Pete Ferrand
Topic: 1511  Message: 1511
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Whilst unpacking from my trip to the Fort Wayne hamfest and a few more days seeing the sights of northwestern Ohio, I got to thinking of the bug tamer projects. Don't you love it when a mechanical problem can be solved in ten minutes?

The core of this project is the use of an electrical neutral/ground bar - the kind that goes into an electrical panel and has lots of screws in it, designed to fasten wires. These are available in many styles from any electrical supplier and most hardware stores. The one I used is made by Ilsco.

I've tried to attach the pictures and put up a copy in the Photos section. An intact bus bar is also shown. I got these free from someone giving them away at a ham flea market years ago and knew I'd find a use for them eventually. If you buy one you can of course buy a much shorter one. This is a perfect use for some electrical scrap that many people have access to.

For each piece, I just cut the bar to separate two of the screws and ran the vibrator of the bug through one wire hole and the new extension vibrator through the other. It's copper so very easy to cut and file smooth. I used a cutoff saw but a hacksaw will work fine. You could cut the bar so the two pieces are identical and smoothly finished but this was my first shot at it.

For the extension vibrator I used a piece of 3.75mm aluminum knitting needle from Wal-Mart. You can use a nail, chrome utensil handles, or what I usually use to build bugs, pegboard hooks.

Now since this is so easy to make I used two pieces of the ground bar next to each other. This adds some more weight as well. It seems as though having two of these is more secure but using only one appears to be sufficient. If the screws tend to work a loose a drop of Locktite Blue will keep them secure and be removable.

I believe it works pretty much like any other bug tamer but doesn't require machine work, finding specific tubing, or affect the alignment of the bug, and if carefully made doesn't look like a complete kludge.

73,
-Pete
WB2QLL
Somers, WI

# 1512. Re: Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-19 02:07:47 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1512  Message: 1512

The Bug-Tamer as marketed by Vibroplex was a tube that fit over the lever, and put the weight at the far end, w-a-y out behind the bug. It slowed the bug w-a-y down.

Vari-speed as marketed by Vibroplex, was a copy of the Hills Brothers Speed-changer of the early fifties. It is a second lever that bolts onto the primary one, and is free to rotate in a half circle above the vibrating lever. One or two weights can be put on it. it works best with the old U-shaped dampers of the earlier Racers. It will slow a bug down if aimed back, but it is primarily intended to be a convenient way to rapidly change the speed of a bug. The man who was making the copy went SK.

Extendadot is made by Frank, W7IS. It is a tube that fits over the lever, and it mounts not one, but two weights, one at either end. Frank provides light weights so that it isn't just beginner-slow. It is meant to improve the quality of the dots made by any bug by distributing the weight along the pendulum. I suggested filing away one side so that the damper rests against the original pendulum and thus it can be trasnfered from key to key without causing any of the keys to be readjusted.

Of the three, the extenda-dot is my favorite.

73, Fred - kt5x

I remember the term, too, but I'm no longer sure what one is. Pix at http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/04/kd8jhj-bug-tamer.html show something like the Extend-a-Dot, but other pages show the Vari-Speed while calling it the Bug Tamer. Maybe it has become a word like "Kleenex" -- people use the brand name for ALL tissues.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

# 1513. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Some activity

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-19 08:30:36 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1512  Message: 1513

Vibroplex is now selling the Vari-Speed-

Carl

73  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

----- Original Message -----
From: "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:07:47 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re:  Some activity

The Bug-Tamer as marketed by Vibroplex was a tube that fit over the lever, and put the weight at the far end, w-a-y out behind the bug.  It slowed the bug w-a-y down.

Vari-speed as marketed by Vibroplex, was a copy of the Hills Brothers Speed-changer of the early fifties.  It is a second lever that bolts onto the primary one, and is free to rotate in a half circle above the vibrating lever.  One or two weights can be put on it.  it works best with the old U-shaped dampers of the earlier Racers.  It will slow a bug down if aimed back, but it is primarily intended to be a convenient way to rapidly change the speed of a bug.  The man who was making the copy went SK.

Extendadot is made by Frank, W7IS.  It is a tube that fits over the lever, and it mounts not one, but two weights, one at either end.  Frank provides light weights so that it isn't just beginner-slow.  It is meant to improve the quality of the dots made by any bug by distributing the weight along the pendulum.  I suggested filing away one side so that the damper rests against the original pendulum and thus it can be trasnfered from key to key without causing any of the keys to be readjusted.

Of the three, the extenda-dot is my favorite.

73,  Fred - kt5x

I remember the term, too, but I'm no longer sure what one is. Pix at http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/04/kd8jhj-bug-tamer.html show something like the Extend-a-Dot, but other pages show the Vari-Speed while calling it the Bug Tamer. Maybe it has become a word like "Kleenex" -- people use the brand name for ALL tissues.

Vy 7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

# 1514. RFTB Tonight - In honor of K8DD

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-21 18:25:58 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1514  Message: 1514

Tonight's RFTB is dedicated to the memory of our departed brother K8DD.

I hope that all Flying Pigs and QRPers will take this opportunity to get on the air and warm up the aether in Hank's memory - it is fitting to be on the air with him in mind.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1515. NAQCC News Release

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-11-22 17:13:11 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1515  Message: 1515

News Release - Please pass the word ...

NAQCC - Lifetime membership is FREE!!

Want to be part of the largest QRP CW club in the world? (4,800+ members from 85+ countries!)

With winter coming up in the Northern Hemisphere, it's an ideal time to join the NAQCC and participate in its many varied activities.

Perhaps you are looking for someone to "Elmer" you? Then we have just what you need to develop and improve your CW skills, including QRS nets perfect for the new CW op.

Or maybe you would like to volunteer your time and become an "Elmer" to help one of those fellow hams new to Morse code.

And how about a Sprint or two thrown in for good measure? We have them too, for those of you who like a little friendly contesting. Our last 8 sprints have each garnered well over 100 logs from 150+ participants, making them among the most popular ever 2 hour sprints.

Want something that lasts a little longer than a sprint? We have challenges that last a whole month with a different theme each month.

Into awards? Our extensive awards program has something for everyone.

Many of our sprints, challenges, awards, and other club activities involve handsome prizes donated by our members.

Best of all, this and more can be yours at NO COST just by joining the NAQCC (North American QRP CW Club). Lifetime membership is FREE!!

As different as we may be, we all share one thing in common, and that is our love for CW.

Now is the time to get involved! Join our group that includes "Big Gun" contesters, hard-core QRPers, experimenters, ragchewers and SWLers; young and old alike. We welcome all who want to help support CW and have at least some interest in using QRP from time-to-time.

Help us on our mission to preserve and encourage CW activity on our amateur bands. Sign up today and help keep CW alive and well.

Don't wait, do it now!

Visit http://home.windstream.net/yoel/ to sign up and receive your FREE lifetime membership number and certificate.

On behalf of:
Tom, WY3H - NAQCC President
John, K3WWP - NAQCC Vice President
Paul, KD2MX - NAQCC Recruitment Officer
Dave, VA3RJ/VE3JDR - NAQCC Publicity Officer
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

# 1516. any Vibroplex Norcross owners?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-05 20:00:22 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1516  Message: 1516

Anyone on here own a Vibroplex with a Norcross label (with whom I have not already spoken)? I am seeking to gather serials of known specimens, and photos. I am happy to share that with other owners who are interested in such. Also, would be pleased to make a two-way Norcross bug QSO.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 1517. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-13 00:44:33 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1517

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our December sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time which is Wednesday 0130-0330z time.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://home.windstream.net/yoel/sprint201011.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and also a special prize.

This month's Special Prize goes to the winner, to be decided by drawing among all who submit a valid log, gets a choice of paddle handles, straight key knobs, and/or K2 knob inserts donated by Gregg WB8LZG.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1518. Brooklyn metal stamping bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-17 07:15:28 UTC
From: mm1ewa
Topic: 1518  Message: 1518

Good day

I'm wanting to buy a Brooklyn metal stamping bug, I'll pay a price that reflexs condition, I have a number of bugs for trade if need be.

Cheers!

Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

# 1519. Re: Brooklyn metal stamping bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-23 01:38:00 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1518  Message: 1519

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "mm1ewa" <mm1ewa@...> wrote:
>
> Good day
>
> I'm wanting to buy a Brooklyn metal stamping bug, I'll pay a price that reflexs condition, I have a number of bugs for trade if need be.
>
> Cheers!
>
> Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ
>
Michael,
I don't have a BMS bug nor have I ever seen one in person. Have you ever oparated one? I am interested to know if there is any difference in the feel with the dit spring mounted on the post rather then the spring arm. Good luck in your serch.
Tom AC5JH

# 1520. Re: Brooklyn metal stamping bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-24 19:30:57 UTC
From: hfdxer
Topic: 1518  Message: 1520

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" <ac5jh@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "mm1ewa" <mm1ewa@> wrote:
> >
> > Good day
> >
> > I'm wanting to buy a Brooklyn metal stamping bug, I'll pay a price that reflexs condition, I have a number of bugs for trade if need be.
> >
> > Cheers!
> >
> > Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ
> >
> Michael,
> I don't have a BMS bug nor have I ever seen one in person. Have you ever oparated one? I am interested to know if there is any difference in the feel with the dit spring mounted on the post rather then the spring arm. Good luck in your serch.
> Tom AC5JH
>
I have that I had 20 some years Speed -Bug(BMS), but way too fast for me. I think I'm hanging on to it. Made very nice. This the only one I seen. I think someone in Arizona may have one.
Take care
Railroad

# 1521. Special NAQCC mW Sprint Wednesday evening!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2010-12-27 22:44:02 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1521  Message: 1521

Our December Special NAQCC mW Sprint will be held this coming Wednesday evening local time which is Thursday, December 30, 0130-0330Z time.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201012mw.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Power: 999 mW or less to be eligible for any awards or prizes. Others welcome to participate and submit check logs.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

This is a special sprint, for the month of December, that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate, even QRO!

Come join us and have a real good time!

73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1522. RFTB Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-16 15:28:09 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1522  Message: 1522

Tonight is the first RFTB for 2011.

I hope that all Flying Pigs and QRPers will take this opportunity to get on the air and have some fun. Maybe if we heat up the ionosphere enough, the cold weather will take the hint and scram!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1523. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-17 15:47:17 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1523

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time which, is Thursday, January 20, 0130-0330z time.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201101.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: ARRL Operating Manual (2 - 4th edition 1993 and 7th edition 2002), awarded by 2 random drawings from all those who submit a log for a sprint from January 1, 2011 to February 28, 2011 and March 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011. Winner of the first drawing gets his/her choice of the two and is not eligible for the second drawing. Winners to be announced.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1524. Click to view.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-19 01:47:19 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1524  Message: 1524

hello
Just a couple of days ago we bought an Apple MacBook Pro MC024LL/Afrom !
this website: www.xmaswholesalers.com .
It is indeed a fantastic machine, though it will take some time to get used
to the new system. Wireles mouse and keyboard. Nice design.
and I love it. I paid $1260US all charges included the chose to use the
Core 2 Duo but that's not all bad. This is a stable, cool running, capable
processor. I use this mostly for work where stability, battery life,
portability, and longevity are the most important things to me. I rarely
play games. I especially like the backlit keyboard. if you want to get
one. you can check it out .

hope you had a happy holiday....

Regards,

Earl Needham

# 1525. Re: Click to view.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-19 23:36:08 UTC
From: earl_needham
Topic: 1524  Message: 1525

Ah -- NO! This is trojan/spam/virus, so do NOT click on that link!

Earl

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:
>
> hello
> Just a couple of days ago we bought an Apple MacBook Pro MC024LL/Afrom !
> this website: www.xmaswholesalers.com .
> It is indeed a fantastic machine, though it will take some time to get used
> to the new system. Wireles mouse and keyboard. Nice design.
> and I love it. I paid $1260US all charges included the chose to use the
> Core 2 Duo but that's not all bad. This is a stable, cool running, capable
> processor. I use this mostly for work where stability, battery life,
> portability, and longevity are the most important things to me. I rarely
> play games. I especially like the backlit keyboard. if you want to get
> one. you can check it out .
>
> hope you had a happy holiday....
>
> Regards,
>
> Earl Needham
>

# 1526. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-20 02:35:55 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 422  Message: 1526

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /BugNapper 6.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : Another approach to slowing a bug

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/BugNapper%206.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>

# 1527. Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-20 02:55:19 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1527  Message: 1527

Hi, All -

As usual, I am a day late and a dollar short for the discussion on ways to slow a bug, but herewith is what has just come out of the workshop. In the "Files" section of the group I have uploaded a description of this new approach to slowing down a bug into a speed range that is more accessible to many hams that you meet on the air. There are also a couple of photos in the "Photos" section that are taken from the write-up. A YouTube movie of the device in operation is being prepared.

I have called the device the BugNapper, because all of the better names, like BugTamer, were taken. Please let me know if this term has been used by someone else - my XYL has come up with a few names is this one is taken.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1528. Re: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-20 03:01:49 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1527  Message: 1528

Looks interesting, wish I had time to really study it.

7 3
Earl

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@earthlink.net>
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Thu, 20 Jan 2011 02:55:19
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow a bug

Hi, All -

As usual, I am a day late and a dollar short for the discussion on ways to slow a bug, but herewith is what has just come out of the workshop. In the "Files" section of the group I have uploaded a description of this new approach to slowing down a bug into a speed range that is more accessible to many hams that you meet on the air. There are also a couple of photos in the "Photos" section that are taken from the write-up. A YouTube movie of the device in operation is being prepared.

I have called the device the BugNapper, because all of the better
names, like BugTamer, were taken. Please let me know if this term has been used by someone else - my XYL has come up with a few names is this one is taken.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1529. Re: Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-20 14:02:12 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1527  Message: 1529

Hi Rich, very interesting BugNapper! Its
nice but toooo much trouble for me to do all
that stuff. Been using wooded clothes pins for
30 years to slow down a bug.....or just switch
to a straight key.....grin!
73....Walter - K5EST - Missouri

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>> I have called the device the BugNapper, because all of the

# 1530. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-20 15:32:00 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1527  Message: 1530

Hi, Walter -

???? Whatever works for you is best.? This was something that has been running around in my mind for some time, and I just had to try it out.? Yes, it is more complicated than the more direct methods, but it was fun to work out the physics.? Especially since I've been playing with magnets and springs most of my life.
?? ? But your way is also quite effective - as a matter of fact, you can just use the dash paddle and skip the straight key altogether!?
???? So, to each his own.? Hope to work you on the air someday.

???? 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: k5est
Sent: Jan 20, 2011 9:02 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Another way to slow a bug

?

Hi Rich, very interesting BugNapper! Its
nice but toooo much trouble for me to do all
that stuff. Been using wooded clothes pins for
30 years to slow down a bug.....or just switch
to a straight key.....grin!
73....Walter - K5EST - Missouri

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" wrote:
>> I have called the device the BugNapper, because all of the

# 1531. Slow Down Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 01:47:05 UTC
From: Tony Morgan
Topic: 1531  Message: 1531

Just ran across this on ebay:

http://cgi.ebay.com/Slow-Down-Vibroplex-Telegraph-Key-Morse-Code-Ham-Radio-/120673220026?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item1c18af35ba

Anyone care to comment on this item?

73,

Tony W7GO

# 1532. Re: Slow Down Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 02:19:04 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1531  Message: 1532

Hi, Tony -

I met this fellow (at least I think that was the same person) at the Fort Wayne (IN) Hamfest in November. He had some samples there, and they were nicely finished and worked well, and he was willing to "talk shop".
Actually, its hard for the mass/extension approach not to work. What may make a difference for some folks how "finished" it looks and how easy is it to adjust (and whether it requires any permanent changes to the bug). This device passes all these tests.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Tony Morgan <1desertdweller@...> wrote:
>
> Just ran across this on ebay:
>
> http://cgi.ebay.com/Slow-Down-Vibroplex-Telegraph-Key-Morse-Code-Ham-Radio-/120673220026?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item1c18af35ba
>
> Anyone care to comment on this item?
>
> 73,
>
> Tony W7GO
>

# 1533. Re: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 02:43:11 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1531  Message: 1533

You can make your own very easily using brass rod and brass tubing from a hobby shop for very little cost. I have several on my bugs. I have a picture of one I made in the photo section.

73,
Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: Tony Morgan
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 5:47 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

Just ran across this on ebay:

http://cgi.ebay.com/Slow-Down-Vibroplex-Telegraph-Key-Morse-Code-Ham-Radio-/120673220026?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item1c18af35ba

Anyone care to comment on this item?

73,

Tony W7GO

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1534. Re: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 03:11:52 UTC
From: Pete Ferrand
Topic: 1531  Message: 1534

>From: TroyW6HV <w6hv@...>
>Sent: Jan 20, 2011 8:43 PM

>You can make your own very easily using brass rod and brass tubing from a

I made one as well out of a common electrical grounding bar. Cheap and the screws are included. Just cut a couple pieces off the aluminum bar. I used a knitting needle for the extra shaft but peg hooks (for hanging stuff on a perforated board) can be cut down and work great.

See the photo album under my call.

73,
-Pete
WB2QLL

# 1535. Re: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 22:29:06 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1531  Message: 1535

This device seems to be similar to the "Extend-A-Dot" bug slower.  To increase the period of oscillation of a bug pendulum, either more weight can be added to the pendulum, or weight can be moved farther away from the pivot point, or both.  This device accomplishes that, so it should work well.  The only slight negative is that any device that attaches to the pendulum rod with a "set screw" has the possibility of marring the pendulum rod.  Note: Most Vibroplex weight screws have a nylon tip or a rounded tip.

Carl  WZ4CW
73  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tony Morgan" <1desertdweller@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 8:47:05 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tony Morgan" <1desertdweller@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 8:47:05 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Slow Down Vibroplex

Just ran across this on ebay:

http://cgi.ebay.com/Slow-Down-Vibroplex-Telegraph-Key-Morse-Code-Ham-Radio-/120673220026?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item1c18af35ba

Anyone care to comment on this item?

73,

Tony W7GO

# 1536. Re: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 23:08:00 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1527  Message: 1536

I've examined the write up and photos of this device, and to me BugNapper seems to be pure genious.  It's obvious that it will slow the oscillation of a bug.  The thing that makes it so inovative, is that it can be adjusted quickly and easily.  By simply turning a screw, the speed can be adjusted any amount, faster or slower.  Fantastic.

Now to speak more about "slowing" a bug.  Some people feel that to slow a bug "everything" must be slowed.  Instead of the bug operating at say 20-25 WPM, by adding weight, it is slowed to 10 WPM for example.  The effect of this is that while the overall speed is 10 WPM, the "character" speed is also 10 WPM.  This may not be the best way to "learn" and to "send" CW.

Other people are of the opinion that while the overall speed needs to be slowed, the character speed should remain in the vicinity of 20 WPM.  To achieve an overall speed reduction, the "spaces" between characters and words are lengthened to give the overall speed desired.  If this method of "slowing" is followed, the effort to slow a bug is greatly diminished since it only needs to be slowed to 20 WPM.  Many people, as well as W1AW code practice, seem to subscribe to this approach.

Pick the method that works for you and Good Luck-  Carl  WZ4CW

73  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

----- Original Message -----
From: "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 9:55:19 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow a bug

Hi, All -

As usual, I am a day late and a dollar short for the discussion on ways to slow a bug, but herewith is what has just come out of the workshop. In the "Files" section of the group I have uploaded a description of this new approach to slowing down a bug into a speed range that is more accessible to many hams that you meet on the air. There are also a couple of photos in the "Photos" section that are taken from the write-up. A YouTube movie of the device in operation is being prepared.

I have called the device the BugNapper, because all of the better
names, like BugTamer, were taken. Please let me know if this term has been used by someone else - my XYL has come up with a few names is this one is taken.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1537. Re: [cw_bugs] Another way to slow a bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-21 23:37:39 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1527  Message: 1537

To paraphrase Carl ( while the overall speed needs to be slowed, the character speed should remain in the vicinity of 20) by saying: " IF overall speed needs to be slowed, the character speed should remain in the vicinity of 20" sums it all up completely. Below about 20 WPM, Morse tends to become unreadable. Only very skilled operators can concentrate well enough to read 12 wpm, which is why The Test was such a challenge in the Bad Old Days !

You can't learn to ride a pushbike by riding at 1 mile per hour. Stage performers can do it, yes; but beginners need "steerage way". Try to learn slow flying, or low-launch-velocity astronautics ? Try to learn a foreign language by starting at five syllables per minute ? Nonsense !

I've just got an antique McElroy, because I want to re-learn buggery. Do I slow it to 5 wpm ? Do I buggery !

Apologies if some of my linguistic subtleties are too obscure for some of our Overseas Members, but you are all so good that I tend to forget. Auf Deutsch, ich bin schrecklich; en francais, dégeulasse. As for my Greek, the Greeks have a word for it !

QAC de G2JL +

# 1538. Re: [cw_bugs] New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-23 19:11:57 UTC
From: F. Richard Burt
Topic: 1538  Message: 1538

Good Afternoon, Fellow Buggy Hams:

My father and I liked to Rag Chew with other hams, even the Novice boys who were still having trouble with 5 words per minute speeds. In a pick-up equipment issue from Texas Army MARS, I obtained my very own Vibroplex bug for my very own. The positioning spring was VERY stiff, and the ditttsss ran way too fast, even with the weight as far out on the pendulum movement as I could place it. So, handy man that I can be, sometimes, I thought about it overnight, and work up from a dead sleep with the "solution."

Fetching a fine-toothed metal file from my toolbox, I took careful aim at the top edge of the spring and filed a notch in the spring. Then, I fired up the transmitter and "tested" it. For semi-automatic keying at slow words-per-minute, that flat spring was still way too stiff. So, I turned the bug over and used my file on what was then the bottom edge of the spring, (being up-side-down, I could gently press down with each file-stroke and the amount of vertical mass at that point of the spring was now beginning to "look" narrow. Better test again. The performance now was quite good for a speed of about 10 words-per-minute speed. Since my goal was to bring it down to 5 words-per-minute, I continued to file the bottom edge of that spring, and tested after each set of about six strokes of the file.

Sure enough, when I reached the place where the spring was "proper" to rebulate the ditttssss evenly with the DAHs, the amount of steel left was visible no more than about 1/8-inch. Fatigue might be a possibility, but this adjustment in physical properties was inexpensive, interesting, and successful in 1958, and it is still in good shape.

Richard Meiss, WB9LPU, your bug is beautifull, ...and shines quite well. The Government didn't attempt to protect their stuff. All it had to do was work when plugged into a transmitter. Let me pose my opinion, with no hands-on experience with your proposed corrective action using magnets.

The "natural" feel of the corrective action with my bug has no quirkiness. All of the physical properties "slowed" equally as I filed the steel spring for less top-to-bottom mass. Just an idea worth consideration, since I am now a reporting committee of one, uninvited to comment on the subject. <grins>

73s

Dick

F. Richard Burt
W5QQM

Garland, Texas

BrazosValley@...

.
which I think could make placement and regulation of the counter-forces
necessary to compensate for too-rigid a return/restore spring
----- Original Message -----
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 8:35 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /BugNapper 6.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : Another approach to slowing a bug

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/BugNapper%206.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>

# 1539. Re: New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-24 01:51:26 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1538  Message: 1539

Hi, Dick -

I guess that it took a bit more nerve that I have to attack the mainspring of a bug, especially since it is riveted in place and your modification was pretty permanent. But if it worked for you, then it did its job. A potential problem with reducing the dimensions of the spring from the top and bottom is that it reduces the strength of the spring to bear the downward force of the weight on the pendulum. One way around this is to use a Dremel tool with a small abrasive wheel and remove a "slot" of material from the center of the spring. This preserves its width and reduces its lateral stiffness with little effect on the vertical strength. But it is still not reversible.

I took some time to clean up the bug before taking the photographs, because it is my pride and joy. My father gave it to me in 1957 as a combination General license and birthday present. Actually, he brought home a Lafayette Radio bug (aka Skillman, "coffin bug", Hi-Mound, etc.). It was a nice bug in its own right, but my father saw in my face that I had really had my heart set on a Vibroplex, so he traded it in for one. It has stayed with me for many moves and escaped being cut down to make a CW paddle. To shine it up without damaging the chrome, I used a Mr. Clean Magic Eraser sponge. That item leaves no residue and has no abrasive effect either on the chrome or the crackle finish of the base. I would be careful about using it on one of the "Japanned" bases of the older Vibroplexes.

A YouTube video of the BugNapper is in the works and should be finished before too long.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "F. Richard Burt" <BrazosValley@...> wrote:
>
> Good Afternoon, Fellow Buggy Hams:
>
> My father and I liked to Rag Chew with other hams, even the Novice boys
> who were still having trouble with 5 words per minute speeds. In a pick-up
> equipment issue from Texas Army MARS, I obtained my very own Vibroplex bug
> for my very own. The positioning spring was VERY stiff, and the ditttsss
> ran way too fast, even with the weight as far out on the pendulum movement

> as I could place it. So, handy man that I can be, sometimes, I
thought
> about it overnight, and work up from a dead sleep with the "solution."
>
> Fetching a fine-toothed metal file from my toolbox, I took careful aim
> at the top edge of the spring and filed a notch in the spring. Then,
> I fired up the transmitter and "tested" it. For semi-automatic keying
> at slow words-per-minute, that flat spring was still way too stiff.
So,
> I turned the bug over and used my file on what was then the bottom
edge
> of the spring, (being up-side-down, I could gently press down with
each
> file-stroke and the amount of vertical mass at that point of the
spring
> was now beginning to "look" narrow. Better test again. The
performance
> now was quite good for a speed of about 10 words-per-minute speed.
Since
> my goal was to bring it down to 5 words-per-minute, I continued to
file
> the bottom edge of that spring, and tested after each set of about six
> strokes of the file.
>
> Sure enough, when I reached the place where the spring was "proper" to
> rebulate the ditttssss evenly with the DAHs, the amount of steel left
> was visible no more than about 1/8-inch. Fatigue might be a
possibility,
> but this adjustment in physical properties was inexpensive,
interesting,
> and successful in 1958, and it is still in good shape.
>
> Richard Meiss, WB9LPU, your bug is beautifull, ...and shines quite
well.
> The Government didn't attempt to protect their stuff. All it had to
do
> was work when plugged into a transmitter. Let me pose my opinion,
with
> no hands-on experience with your proposed corrective action using
magnets.
>
> The "natural" feel of the corrective action with my bug has no
quirkiness.
> All of the physical properties "slowed" equally as I filed the steel
> spring for less top-to-bottom mass. Just an idea worth consideration,
> since I am now a reporting committee of one, uninvited to comment on
the
> subject. <grins>
>
> 73s

>
> Dick
>
> F. Richard Burt
> W5QQM
>
> Garland, Texas
>
> BrazosValley@...
>
>
> .
> which I think could make placement and regulation of the
counter-forces
> necessary to compensate for too-rigid a return/restore spring
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 8:35 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] New file uploaded to cw_bugs
>
>
>
>
> Hello,
>
> This email message is a notification to let you know that
> a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
> group.
>
> File : /BugNapper 6.pdf
> Uploaded by : richard_meiss wb9lpu@...
> Description : Another approach to slowing a bug
>
> You can access this file at the URL:
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/BugNapper%206.pdf
>
> To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
>
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
> Regards,
>
> richard_meiss wb9lpu@...
>

# 1540. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-24 05:48:58 UTC
From: F. Richard Burt
Topic: 1538  Message: 1540

Good Morning, Rich, et al:

By the time I get this letter into cyberspace, the sun, moon, and stars will convfirm that it is already Monday somewhere, so I can say "Good Morning" with a clear head. <grins>

Your suggestions about how to relax the spring was a better idea than what I did with my file. Good thinking.

G'nite, ...or G'mornin'
Dick

.
----- Original Message -----
From: richard_meiss
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2011 7:51 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Hi, Dick -

I guess that it took a bit more nerve that I have to attack the mainspring of a bug, especially since it is riveted in place and your modification was pretty permanent. But if it worked for you, then it did its job. A potential problem with reducing the dimensions of the spring from the top and bottom is that it reduces the strength of the spring to bear the downward force of the weight on the pendulum. One way around this is to use a Dremel tool with a small abrasive wheel and remove a "slot" of material from the center of the spring. This preserves its width and reduces its lateral stiffness with little effect on the vertical strength. But it is still not reversible.

I took some time to clean up the bug before taking the photographs, because it is my pride and joy. My father gave it to me in 1957 as a combination General license and birthday present. Actually, he brought home a Lafayette Radio bug (aka Skillman, "coffin bug", Hi-Mound, etc.). It was a nice bug in its own right, but my father saw in my face that I had really had my heart set on a Vibroplex, so he traded it in for one. It has stayed with me for many moves and escaped being cut down to make a CW paddle. To shine it up without damaging the chrome, I used a Mr. Clean Magic Eraser sponge. That item leaves no residue and has no abrasive effect either on the chrome or the crackle finish of the base. I would be careful about using it on one of the "Japanned" bases of the older Vibroplexes.

A YouTube video of the BugNapper is in the works and should be finished before too long.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "F. Richard Burt" <BrazosValley@...>
wrote:
>
> Good Afternoon, Fellow Buggy Hams:
>
> My father and I liked to Rag Chew with other hams, even the Novice
boys
> who were still having trouble with 5 words per minute speeds. In a
pick-up
> equipment issue from Texas Army MARS, I obtained my very own Vibroplex
bug
> for my very own. The positioning spring was VERY stiff, and the
ditttsss
> ran way too fast, even with the weight as far out on the pendulum
movement
> as I could place it. So, handy man that I can be, sometimes, I
thought
> about it overnight, and work up from a dead sleep with the "solution."
>
> Fetching a fine-toothed metal file from my toolbox, I took careful aim
> at the top edge of the spring and filed a notch in the spring. Then,
> I fired up the transmitter and "tested" it. For semi-automatic keying
> at slow words-per-minute, that flat spring was still way too stiff.
So,
> I turned the bug over and used my file on what was then the bottom
edge
> of the spring, (being up-side-down, I could gently press down with
each
> file-stroke and the amount of vertical mass at that point of the
spring
> was now beginning to "look" narrow. Better test again. The
performance
> now was quite good for a speed of about 10 words-per-minute speed.
Since
> my goal was to bring it down to 5 words-per-minute, I continued to
file
> the bottom edge of that spring, and tested after each set of about six
> strokes of the file.
>
> Sure enough, when I reached the place where the spring was "proper" to
> rebulate the ditttssss evenly with the DAHs, the amount of steel left
> was visible no more than about 1/8-inch. Fatigue might be a
possibility,
> but this adjustment in physical properties was inexpensive,
interesting,
> and successful in 1958, and it is still in good shape.
>
> Richard Meiss, WB9LPU, your bug is beautifull, ...and shines quite
well.

> The Government didn't attempt to protect their stuff. All it had to
do
> was work when plugged into a transmitter. Let me pose my opinion,
with
> no hands-on experience with your proposed corrective action using
magnets.
>
> The "natural" feel of the corrective action with my bug has no
quirkiness.
> All of the physical properties "slowed" equally as I filed the steel
> spring for less top-to-bottom mass. Just an idea worth consideration,
> since I am now a reporting committee of one, uninvited to comment on
the
> subject. <grins>
>
> 73s
>
> Dick
>
> F. Richard Burt
> W5QQM
>
> Garland, Texas
>
> BrazosValley@...
>
>
> .
> which I think could make placement and regulation of the
counter-forces
> necessary to compensate for too-rigid a return/restore spring
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 8:35 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] New file uploaded to cw_bugs
>
>
>
>
> Hello,
>
> This email message is a notification to let you know that
> a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
> group.
>
> File : /BugNapper 6.pdf
> Uploaded by : richard_meiss wb9lpu@...
> Description : Another approach to slowing a bug
>

> You can access this file at the URL:
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/BugNapper%206.pdf
>
> To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
>
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
> Regards,
>
> richard_meiss wb9lpu@...
>

# 1541. Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-24 14:10:27 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1541  Message: 1541

Hello to all,

I would like to do some experimenting with telegraph keys incorporating magnets and sealed magnetic reed switches similar to those used in the beautiful keys designed by group member Richard Meiss (wb9lpu). I've looked through his very well done web site explanations but didn't see any references to the reed switch source/s or p/n.

Does anyone have a source for the reed switches? I've seen a few websites but with so many versions to choose from, I'd sure like some direction before ordering.

Richard, many many thanks for posting your designs through photos and explanations, what a treasure!

Thanks for any help.

73
Tom
W4TMW

# 1542. Re: [cw_bugs] Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-24 15:01:48 UTC
From: F. Richard Burt
Topic: 1541  Message: 1542

Good Morning, Tom:

CQ W4TMW de W5QQM K

Tom are you anywhere near Montecello Florida? I have a long-time ham friend named William Robert Moody, W4WSZ who is a big DX addict, and, although W4-land is a huge area, I was just curious if you all were close enough to actually know each other. <grins>

73's Dick

F. Richard Burt
QTH Garland, TX U.S.A.
W5QQM K

I'm an N-scale model railroading addict. Confession is good for the soul. <grins>

BrazosValley@...

.

# 1543. Re: Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-25 03:01:34 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1541  Message: 1543

Hi, Tom -

Welcome to the world of magnets and reed switches. Good rare-earth magnets are available from several places on the web. I am a customer of K&J Magnetics (http://www.kjmagnetics.com <http://www.kjmagnetics.com/> ) and Magcraft (http://www.magcraft.com <http://www.kjmagnetics.com/> ). Both of these companies have proved to be fast and reliable.
Satisfactory reed switches are a bit harder to find. I have acquired a lot of them at hamfests - the ones that I find the most useful are about 1/2" long and 3/32" in diameter. One place to find them on the web, or by mail, is at All Electronics (http://www.allelectronics.com/make-a-store/item/RSW-27/SMALL-REED-SWITC\H-N.O.//1.html <http://www.allelectronics.com/make-a-store/item/RSW-27/SMALL-REED-SWITC\H-N.O.//1.html> ). Their stock varies from time to time, so I get a bunch of them when they are available. Some places sell them for use in alarm systems, but these types tend to be pretty large.
There are a few things to keep in mind when working with the glass-encapsulated reed switches. They are fragile, so I mount mine in brass tubes (5/32" diameter) for protection. This size of tube will accept the switch and allow for passage of connecting wires. The switches are surprisingly tolerant of soldering to the leads, as long as you are quick, but bending the leads (especially near to the switch body) is asking for trouble.
Some other things to be aware of. Magnetic reed switches show hysteresis - that is, the point in a magnetic field where they turn on is different from where they turn off (they become slightly magnetized themselves). This is great for use in bugs, where there is a fair amount of pendulum movement - the hysteresis completely eliminates the "scratchy dits" problem. But in a straight key or paddle, this can pose a little problem. If you have a magnet on the key lever, as you push the key down the switch will close at some point (which you can set to be the end of the stroke). But as the key lever moves back up, the switch will stay closed for a small space. This means that you might not be able to set the travel distance to be as small as you would want - especially in a paddle.
The switches also have "hot spots" that you can map by moving a small magnet around them. The sensitivity falls off with distance differently depending on the hot spot chosen. I have also found that the switches work predictably as long as the current switched is quite low (as it is with a modern keying circuit). If you try to switch a higher current, the flowing current changes the characteristics of the switch in a rather unpredictable way. So if you are trying to key a "boat anchor", a keying relay is in order.

Most of these properties can be turned to your advantage with careful design. Best of luck with your experiments, and let us know what develops.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" <mtnest@...> wrote:
>
>
> Hello to all,
>
> I would like to do some experimenting with telegraph keys
> incorporating magnets and sealed magnetic reed switches
> similar to those used in the beautiful keys designed by group
> member Richard Meiss (wb9lpu). I've looked through his
> very well done web site explanations but didn't see any
> references to the reed switch source/s or p/n.
>
> Does anyone have a source for the reed switches? I've seen
> a few websites but with so many versions to choose from, I'd
> sure like some direction before ordering.
>
> Richard, many many thanks for posting your designs through
> photos and explanations, what a treasure!
>
> Thanks for any help.
>
> 73
> Tom
> W4TMW
>

# 1544. Re: Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-25 15:02:41 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1541  Message: 1544

Hello Dick,

Nope, not in that area, I live in Hartwell, GA. a small town
situated on Lake Hartwell at the headwaters of the Savannah river.

Also, not aware of Robert, but then I'm only a little guy among
the DX crowd.

73
Tom
W4TMW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "F. Richard Burt" <BrazosValley@...> wrote:
>
> Good Morning, Tom:
>
> CQ W4TMW de W5QQM K
>
> Tom are you anywhere near Montecello Florida? I have a
> long-time ham friend named William Robert Moody, W4WSZ
> who is a big DX addict, and, although W4-land is a huge
> area, I was just curious if you all were close enough to
> actually know each other. <grins>
>
> 73's Dick
>
> F. Richard Burt
> QTH Garland, TX U.S.A.
> W5QQM K
>
> I'm an N-scale model railroading addict. Confession is
> good for the soul. <grins>
>
> BrazosValley@...
>
> .
>

# 1545. Re: Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-25 15:21:03 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1541  Message: 1545

Good morning Richard,

Thank you, thank you for all of the excellent info. I'm excited to get going on this voyage, especially after your comments. I can see now, that I will need to do some exploring with adjustable parts just as you did when you got into the magnetic/switching area. Thank goodness I saved many of your photos and explanations since it was reported that they were all lost during the switchover to this new group website.

Yes, I intend to report my progress, but for now it will probably be all questions. :0)

73
Tom
W4TMW

"richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Tom -
>
> Welcome to the world of magnets and reed switches. Good rare-earth
> magnets are available from several places on the web. I am a customer
> of K&J Magnetics (http://www.kjmagnetics.com
> <http://www.kjmagnetics.com/> ) and Magcraft (http://www.magcraft.com
> <http://www.kjmagnetics.com/> ). Both of these companies have proved to
> be fast and reliable.
> Satisfactory reed switches are a bit harder to find. I have
> acquired a lot of them at hamfests - the ones that I find the most
> useful are about 1/2" long and 3/32" in diameter. One place to find
> them on the web, or by mail, is at All Electronics
> (http://www.allelectronics.com/make-a-store/item/RSW-27/SMALL-REED-SWITC\
> H-N.O.//1.html
> <http://www.allelectronics.com/make-a-store/item/RSW-27/SMALL-REED-SWITC\
> H-N.O.//1.html> ). Their stock varies from time to time, so I get a
> bunch of them when they are available. Some places sell them for use in
> alarm systems, but these types tend to be pretty large.
> There are a few things to keep in mind when working with the
> glass-encapsulated reed switches. They are fragile, so I mount mine in
> brass tubes (5/32" diameter) for protection. This size of tube will
> accept the switch and allow for passage of connecting wires. The
> switches are surprisingly tolerant of soldering to the leads, as long as
> you are quick, but bending the leads (especially near to the switch
> body) is asking for trouble.
> Some other things to be aware of. Magnetic reed switches show
> hysteresis - that is, the point in a magnetic field where they turn on
> is different from where they turn off (they become slightly magnetized
> themselves). This is great for use in bugs, where there is a fair
> amount of pendulum movement - the hysteresis completely eliminates the

> "scratchy dits" problem. But in a straight key or paddle, this can pose
> a little problem. If you have a magnet on the key lever, as you push
> the key down the switch will close at some point (which you can set to
> be the end of the stroke). But as the key lever moves back up, the
> switch will stay closed for a small space. This means that you might
> not be able to set the travel distance to be as small as you would want
> - especially in a paddle.
> The switches also have "hot spots" that you can map by moving a
> small magnet around them. The sensitivity falls off with distance
> differently depending on the hot spot chosen. I have also found that
> the switches work predictably as long as the current switched is quite
> low (as it is with a modern keying circuit). If you try to switch a
> higher current, the flowing current changes the characteristics of the
> switch in a rather unpredictable way. So if you are trying to key a
> "boat anchor", a keying relay is in order.
> Most of these properties can be turned to your advantage with
> careful design. Best of luck with your experiments, and let us know
> what develops.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1546. Re: Sealed magnetic reed switch

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-26 02:25:02 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1541  Message: 1546

Wow, well done and great info, Rich!
Many thanks for the tutorial that saves a lot of experimenting
and crazy head scratching!!!
73....Walter - K5EST

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Tom -
>
> Welcome to the world of magnets and reed switches. Good rare-earth
> magnets are available from several places on the web. I am a customer
.....snip.....

# 1547. Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-26 05:25:52 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1547  Message: 1547

Several days ago, two persons were telling how they each had modified the pendulum spring on a Vibroplex bug to slow its speed.  One had filed notches in the spring, and the other had ground a slot in the spring.  While this type of non-reversable modification to the pendulum spring is not advised, they were correct in looking at the pendulum spring as a way to adjust the pendulum oscillation period.  This is in addition to the placement of weights on the pendulum itself.

Actually, Vibroplex had already addressed this modification concern years ago.  In 1940, John La Hiff had patented a new type of adjustable pendulum spring.  It was first used in a new model Presentation Vibroplex beginning in 1948.  This bug looked like a Deluxe Original, but it also had a gold plated brass plate and the La Hiff adjustable pendulum spring.  One end of the spring was riveted to the rear part of the pendulum, but the other end of the spring slipped into a slot in the front part of the pendulum and was retained by two screws.  This adjustable spring could be made longer or shorter to control the speed.  The Presentation was made this way until 1978.  Beginning in 1979, Presentation models ceased to feature the La Hiff spring.

Presentation models with the La Hiff adjustable spring are scarce.  However, one can really make a Vibroplex collection stand out.  I'm smiling because I have one.

73  Carl  WZ4CW  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

.

# 1548. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-26 05:32:51 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1547 Message: 1548

Carl,
I have seen the filed notch mod on a Vibroplex and it does indeed slow the oscillations. The one I owned would have been impossibly rigid without the mod.

Like you, I'm also smiling cuz I have Presentations with the La Hiff adjustable mainspring: one "righty" and one "lefty".
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 1/26/2011 12:25:55 AM Eastern Standard Time, wz4cw@... writes:

Several days ago, two persons were telling how they each had modified the pendulum spring on a Vibroplex bug to slow its speed. One had filed notches in the spring, and the other had ground a slot in the spring. While this type of non-reversable modification to the pendulum spring is not advised, they were correct in looking at the pendulum spring as a way to adjust the pendulum oscillation period. This is in addition to the placement of weights on the pendulum itself.
Actually, Vibroplex had already addressed this modification concern years ago. In 1940, John La Hiff had patented a new type of adjustable pendulum spring. It was first used in a new model Presentation Vibroplex beginning in 1948. This bug looked like a Deluxe Original, but it also had a gold plated brass plate and the La Hiff adjustable pendulum spring. One end of the spring was riveted to the rear part of the pendulum, but the other end of the spring slipped into a slot in the front part of the pendulum and was retained by two screws. This adjustable spring could be made longer or shorter to control the speed. The Presentation was made this way until 1978. Beginning in 1979, Presentation models ceased to feature the La Hiff spring.
Presentation models with the La Hiff adjustable spring are scarce. However, one can really make a Vibroplex collection stand out. I'm smiling because I have one.
73 Carl WZ4CW SKCC 918 FISTS 13491

# 1549. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-26 05:57:57 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1547  Message: 1549

Milt-

That's why they're scarce - you have two!  LOL  I can't remember who, but I think it was you -  Were you saying that you had an idea to make "Vibroplex" style bug carrying cases like the old ones?  Maybe some day?  If so, were you aware that the very first cases were wood only?  No leatherette-  I think I have a couple of copies of old Vibroplex ads, showing a carry case-  Would you be interested?  If you ever get into case making, put a leather handle on it, not a new type plastic one-  You must be like me ,  up all night-
73  Carl  WZ4CW  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

# 1550. Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-28 01:55:57 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1547  Message: 1550

Hi, All -

More smiles here - I checked my Original Presentation, and it has the La Hiff spring. Which brings me to the next question - is the gold base plate really gold plated? I hate to try to polish it and find out that the gold layer is only a micron thick. Has anyone priced a replating job for just the decorative plate?

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, wz4cw@... wrote:
>
>
>
> Â Â Â Â  Several days ago, two persons were telling how they each had modified the pendulum spring on a Vibroplex bug to slow its speed.Â  One had filed notches in the spring, and the other had ground a slot in the spring.Â  While this type of non-reversable modification to the pendulum spring is not advised, they were correct in looking at theÂ pendulum spring as a way to adjust the pendulum oscillation period.Â  This is in addition to the placement of weights on the pendulum itself.
>
> Â Â Â Â  Actually, Vibroplex had already addressed this modification concern years ago.Â  In 1940, John La Hiff had patented a new type of adjustable pendulum spring.Â  It was first used in a new model Presentation Vibroplex beginning in 1948.Â  This bug looked like a Deluxe Original, but it also had a gold plated brass plate and the La Hiff adjustable pendulum spring.Â  One end of the spring was riveted to the rear part of the pendulum, but the other end of the spring slipped into a slot in the front part of the pendulum and was retained by two screws.Â Â This adjustable spring could be made longer or shorter to control the speed.Â  The Presentation was made this way until 1978.Â  Beginning in 1979, Presentation models ceased to feature the La Hiff spring.
>
> Â Â Â Â  Presentation models with the La Hiff adjustable spring are scarce.Â  However, oneÂ can really makeÂ a Vibroplex collection stand out.Â  I'm smiling because I have one.
>
>
>
> 73Â  CarlÂ  WZ4CW Â Â  Â  SKCC 918 Â  Â  FISTS 13491
> Â
>
>
>
> .
>

# 1551. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-28 04:44:58 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1547  Message: 1551

Rich-

The "Gold Plate" is a brass plate that has been gold plated. I would be very careful when doing any polishing. I don't know for a fact how thick the plating is, but I would guess that it is relatively thin. Before Vibroplex moved from Mobile, AL, I spoke with employees there. They cautioned me to be very careful with any attempt to polish the plate. They quoted me a price of $80 for a complete new "Gold Plated" plate. However, the plates seem to be custom made. I'm guessing this, because they told me that to get a new plate, I would have to ship them the "chrome base" that I wanted the plate for so they could match all the holes in it. I don't know if gold plates are available from Vibroplex Knoxville. Since you already have a plate, you might inquire locally about replating it and the cost. Good Luck!

73  Carl  WZ4CW  SKCC 918  FISTS 13491

----- Original Message -----
From: "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2011 8:55:57 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Hi, All -

More smiles here - I checked my Original Presentation, and it has the La Hiff spring. Which brings me to the next question - is the gold base plate really gold plated? I hate to try to polish it and find out that the gold layer is only a micron thick. Has anyone priced a replating job for just the decorative plate?

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1552. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-28 12:45:57 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1547  Message: 1552

I received an e-mail the other day from Scott W4PA at Vibroplex
regarding a Gold Base Triple Key.. his reply;

Please note - I'm not building the gold plated version right now as I am having trouble finding quality plating work. Chrome version built to order, no charge made to your credit card until it ships. We also have dust covers available for the triple key.

73
Scott Robbins
W4PA

So he 'May Not' be building Any Gold Base models at this time..so, yes,
do be careful if trying to polish yours..you may have trouble replacing
it ! Perhaps you can as him for advice on polishing ? His e-mail
vibroplexknoxville@...
Jerry VE6CPP

On 1/27/2011 9:44 PM, wz4cw@... wrote:
>
> Rich-
>
> The "Gold Plate" is a brass plate that has been gold plated. I
> would be very careful when doing any polishing. I don't know for a
> fact how thick the plating is, but I would guess that it is relatively
> thin. Before Vibroplex moved from Mobile, AL, I spoke with employees
> there. They cautioned me to be very careful with any attempt to
> polish the plate. They quoted me a price of $80 for a complete new
> "Gold Plated" plate. However, the plates seem to be custom made. I'm
> guessing this, because they told me that to get a new plate, I would
> have to ship them the "chrome base" that I wanted the plate for so
> they could match all the holes in it. I don't know if gold plates are
> available from Vibroplex Knoxville. Since you already have a plate,
> you might inquire locally about replating it and the cost. Good Luck!
>
> 73 Carl WZ4CW SKCC 918 FISTS 13491
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...>
> To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2011 8:55:57 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed
>
> Hi, All -
>
> More smiles here - I checked my Original Presentation, and it has the
> La Hiff spring. Which brings me to the next question - is the gold

> base plate really gold plated? I hate to try to polish it and find out
> that the gold layer is only a micron thick. Has anyone priced a
> replating job for just the decorative plate?
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>

# 1553. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-28 17:11:46 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1547  Message: 1553

Rich, Carl and Jerry,

The gold was polished off the brass plate of my Presentation, with ease. But, the brass is shiny.

Story - I bought the Presentation for a very good price. The second jewelry store I approached had a real jewelry repair and design person. He offered his shop and himself to assist in cleaning the bug at no charge !
He gave me a handful of small plastic bags and told me to disassemble the key placing a part to a bag; then return. I did.
Our cleaning assembly line had that key shimmering. Alas, the gold was gone. The bug sounds the same. It catches your eye from inside the glass cabinet. I am beginning to cry.
Steve, NU7T

FCC Section 97.313(a) At all times, an amateur station must use the minimum transmitter power necessary to carry out the desired communications.

# 1554. Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-29 01:06:38 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 1547  Message: 1554

This company might just offer the perfect answer for replating the "gold" plate on a Vibroplex Presentation:
http://www.caswellplating.com/pickakit/index.html

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> More smiles here - I checked my Original Presentation, and it has the La Hiff spring. Which brings me to the next question - is the gold base plate really gold plated? I hate to try to polish it and find out that the gold layer is only a micron thick. Has anyone priced a replating job for just the decorative plate?
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, wz4cw@ wrote:
> >
> >
> >
> > Â Â Â Â  Several days ago, two persons were telling how they each had modified the pendulum spring on a Vibroplex bug to slow its speed.Â  One had filed notches in the spring, and the other had ground a slot in the spring.Â  While this type of non-reversable modification to the pendulum spring is not advised, they were correct in looking at theÂ pendulum spring as a way to adjust the pendulum oscillation period.Â  This is in addition to the placement of weights on the pendulum itself.
> >
> > Â Â Â Â  Actually, Vibroplex had already addressed this modification concern years ago.Â  In 1940, John La Hiff had patented a new type of adjustable pendulum spring.Â  It was first used in a new model Presentation Vibroplex beginning in 1948.Â  This bug looked like a Deluxe Original, but it also had a gold plated brass plate and the La Hiff adjustable pendulum spring.Â  One end of the spring was riveted to the rear part of the pendulum, but the other end of the spring slipped into a slot in the front part of the pendulum and was retained by two screws.Â Â This adjustable spring could be made longer or shorter to control the speed.Â  The Presentation was made this way until 1978.Â  Beginning in 1979, Presentation models ceased to feature the La Hiff spring.
> >
> > Â Â Â Â  Presentation models with the La Hiff adjustable spring are scarce.Â  However, oneÂ can really makeÂ a Vibroplex collection stand out.Â  I'm smiling because I have one.
> >
> >
> >
> > 73Â  CarlÂ  WZ4CW Â Â  Â  SKCC 918 Â  Â  FISTS 13491
> > Â
> >

> >
> >
> > .
> >
>

# 1555. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-01-29 01:16:28 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1547  Message: 1555

Thanks for that! My '56 Presentation has a small area where the plating is missing, and I made it worse trying to cleans something off where it really wasn't dirty. I'll have to look into replating it when I get home.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

KD5XB -- Earl Needham http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs Quoting from the Coast Guard: ZUT Posted via Blackberry

-----Original Message-----
From: "w2blc" <w2blc@necoastal.net>
Sender: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2011 01:06:38
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex Pendulum Spring Mod for Slower Speed

This company might just offer the perfect answer for replating the "gold" plate
on a Vibroplex Presentation:
http://www.caswellplating.com/pickakit/index.html

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "richard_meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> More smiles here - I checked my Original Presentation, and it has the La Hiff spring. Which brings me to the next question - is the gold base plate really gold plated? I hate to try to polish it and find out that the gold layer is only a micron thick. Has anyone priced a replating job for just the decorative plate?
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, wz4cw@ wrote:
> >
> >
> >
> > Â Â Â Â  Several days ago, two persons were telling how they each had modified the pendulum spring on a Vibroplex bug to slow its speed.Â  One had filed notches in the spring, and the other had ground a slot in the spring.Â  While this type of non-reversable modification to the pendulum spring is not advised, they were correct in looking at theÂ pendulum spring as a way to adjust the pendulum oscillation period.Â  This is in addition to the placement of weights on the pendulum itself.
> >

> > Â Â Â Â  Actually, Vibroplex had already addressed this modification concern years ago.Â  In 1940, John La Hiff had patented a new type of adjustable pendulum spring.Â  It was first used in a new model Presentation Vibroplex beginning in 1948.Â  This bug looked like a Deluxe Original, but it also had a gold plated brass plate and the La Hiff adjustable pendulum spring.Â  One end of the spring was riveted to the rear part of the pendulum, but the other end of the spring slipped into a slot in the front part of the pendulum and was retained by two screws.Â Â This adjustable spring could be made longer or shorter to control the speed.Â  The Presentation was made this way until 1978.Â  Beginning in 1979, Presentation models ceased to feature the La Hiff spring.
> >
> > Â Â Â Â  Presentation models with the La Hiff adjustable spring are scarce.Â  However, oneÂ can really makeÂ a Vibroplex collection stand out.Â  I'm smiling because I have one.
> >
> >
> >
> > 73Â  CarlÂ  WZ4CW Â Â  Â  SKCC 918 Â  Â  FISTS 13491
> > Â
> >
> >
> >
> > .
> >
>

# 1556. The BugNapper video is up.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-02-09 03:26:55 UTC
From: richard_meiss
Topic: 1556  Message: 1556

Hi, All -

It took a bit longer than expected, but the video of the BugNapper in operation is up on the YouTube site at the URL http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPAuyzpw1Uw Right now it is specifically dimensioned for the Vibroplex original, but variations could work on any conventional bug. On the Vibroplex, the device does not change the footprint or overall height of the key. (See also the PDF in the Files section of this group.)

Hopefully the device does not upset the looks of the bug, but it is completely removable (and can remain in place even when it is not slowing the bug down).

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1557. Re: [cw_bugs] The BugNapper video is up.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-02-09 04:31:58 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1556  Message: 1557

On 2/8/2011 10:26 PM, richard_meiss wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> It took a bit longer than expected, but the video of the BugNapper
> in operation is up on the YouTube site at the URL
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPAuyzpw1Uw Right now it is specifically
> dimensioned for the Vibroplex original, but variations could work on any
> conventional bug. On the Vibroplex, the device does not change the
> footprint or overall height of the key. (See also the PDF in the Files
> section of this group.)
>
> Hopefully the device does not upset the looks of the bug, but it is
> completely removable (and can remain in place even when it is not
> slowing the bug down).
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>

OK Rich,

You have me drooling! Are these going to be available? I have an
Original that could use one of your Bugnappers, too.

Larry W2LJ

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://w2lj.blogspot.com/
http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com/

# 1558. RFTB Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-02-20 20:26:35 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1522  Message: 1558

Tonight is RFTB night.

Pooped from the ARRL DX Contest? Heck, spend a 'lil more time on the air with us! It is President's Day tomorrow - so hopefully you have the day off and will be able to sleep in.

And as the K6JSS key is handed off to K6JSS/2, the New York team, we cordially invite them to come join us in "The Sty" tonight.

As always, all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1559. 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-04 18:55:10 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1559  Message: 1559

Hello Everyone

Picked up what I thought was a presnetation.

It has the La Hiff's adjustment, the "Gold Plate" and red finger pieces.

However, the base is glossy gun metal grey color.

According to my readings, all presnentations had chromed bases.

The photo was black and white so I didn't looked at the base closely.

Was fixated on the La Hiff mainspring adjustment.

My question is :

Has anyone seen a presentation with other than the chromed base?

Tnx Fernando N2FQ/6

# 1560. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-04 19:45:31 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1559  Message: 1560

My Presentation (which was presented to me in the 60s) has a chromium-plated base, with a thin sheet of gold-plated brass on top of it. It has corroded badly over the 60 years I've had it, just as I have done...

73 de Mort, G2JL

# 1561. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-04 21:52:30 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1559  Message: 1561

Nope, never have. does it have jeweled movement?

MORT !!! Who left the back door to this list open???

Fred - kt5x

www.kt5x.com

>
Hello Everyone

Picked up what I thought was a presnetation.

It has the La Hiff's adjustment, the "Gold Plate" and red finger pieces.

However, the base is glossy gun metal grey color.

According to my readings, all presnentations had chromed bases.

The photo was black and white so I didn't looked at the base closely.

Was fixated on the La Hiff mainspring adjustment.

My question is :

Has anyone seen a presentation with other than the chromed base?

Tnx Fernando N2FQ/6

.

# 1562. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-04 22:12:16 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 1559  Message: 1562

This sounds like a "parts"unit, which the factory did do from time to time, but as far as I have been told NEVER with a Presentation model from that vintage (year). There apparently were some bugs (test bugs ?) with the adjustable mainspring, but they would have been serial numbered many years before the one you have.

Could be someone made up the unit AFTER it left the factory. <- To me that seems like the most likely answer. If you didn't pay too much for it, it should be very easy to enjoy having a bug with an adjustable mainspring !! (Right now that is the preferred bug in my shack.)

- Bob
w9ya

On Fri, Mar 4, 2011 at 11:55 AM, Fernando <n2fq@...> wrote:

> Hello Everyone
>
> Picked up what I thought was a presnetation.
>
> It has the La Hiff's adjustment, the "Gold Plate" and red finger pieces.
>
> However, the base is glossy gun metal grey color.
>
> According to my readings, all presnentations had chromed bases.
>
> The photo was black and white so I didn't looked at the base closely.
>
> Was fixated on the La Hiff mainspring adjustment.
>
> My question is :
>
> Has anyone seen a presentation with other than the chromed base?
>
> Tnx Fernando N2FQ/6
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

>
>
>

# 1563. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-05 09:04:29 UTC
From: G2JL
Topic: 1559  Message: 1563

I crept in through the cat-flap !

73 de Mort, G2JL

# 1564. Bug ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-05 20:07:28 UTC
From: Paul
Topic: 1564  Message: 1564

Hello all,

I have 2 older bugs that have a name plate on them
that say Telegraph Instruments Co. Chicago-no S/N
when were they made and are they very collectable ?
Thanks all.73

Paul K8PG

# 1565. 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-05 20:45:10 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1559  Message: 1565

Hello

Thanks to everyone who responded. I do have French's book
and had consulted it. I also spoke with Vibroplex
while ordering the top jeweled screw and
Mr. Robbins affirmed that all presentations come with chromed
bases.

I suppose that it could have been misrepresented although
when I purchased it their was no mention of it being a presentation
model.

I'll get it going and see how it plays.

Again thanks to all who took the time to post.

Some pictures here:
<http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq/Presentation/presentation.html>

73 Fernando N2FQ/6

# 1566. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-05 23:15:06 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1559  Message: 1566

The key, a Vibroplex Presentation model made in 1966 by Vibroplex of 833 Broadway, NY, NY was ordered with a standard base instead of the chrome base. In 1966 the standard base was gray as is this base.

Of course, a standard Original could have been dismantled and fitted with the "Deluxe model" yoke which had a tapped hole as this one indeed does have for the attachment of the grounding braid, jeweled trunnion on the top, and bottom, the special lever of the Presentation which was slotted on the top for the removal of the main spring and had two tapped holes for machine screws to hold the main spring secure. Then add two red finger pieces, and a red circuit closer knob.
And to top it off - literally - the threaded red plastic piece that was used to seal the hole left by the short jeweled trunnion screw at the which had been changed in the Deluxe line about 1948.

The cost of the individual parts would have been prohibitive - Vibroplex didn't sell the parts wholesale so you could "kit" a key. Only if the owner ordered the key from Vibroplex or if he worked there (same thing) could he have made the key economically.

The only evidence that it is a modified key is that the shorting braid isn't original - the original grounding braid was thinner and was a braid that was either tinned or silvered or made from tinned strands. However, most people who take apart the Deluxe type keys for cleaning of the bearings forget to remove the thin braid and end up breaking it. So they replace it with some sort of stranded wire. These days I use "Solder Wick".

So Fernando, it seems like you have an authentic gray based Presentation - perhaps ordered by the Navy or someone who liked battle ship gray.

If the gray base is as well taken care of as the fragile gold plated top, you can be assured it is indistinguishable from "factory made" as everything is correct on the key.

Very 73,

DR

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>
SOWP <http://www.sowp.org/>, VWOA <http://www.vwoa.org/>,
OOTC<http://www.ootc.us/>,
FISTS <http://www.fists.co.uk/>, CW-Ops <http://www.cwops.org/>,
JARL-A1<http://a1club.net/>,
A1-OP <http://www.arrl.org/a-1-op>, ex-FOC 1271 ARRL-LM<http://www.arrl.org/>
Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
Radio-Officers Google
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Marine

Morse Historic Recordings Page <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>

On Sat, Mar 5, 2011 at 3:45 PM, Fernando <n2fq@...> wrote:

> Hello
>
> Thanks to everyone who responded. I do have French's book
> and had consulted it. I also spoke with Vibroplex
> while ordering the top jeweled screw and
> Mr. Robbins affirmed that all presentations come with chromed
> bases.
>
> I suppose that it could have been misrepresented although
> when I purchased it their was no mention of it being a presentation
> model.
>
> I'll get it going and see how it plays.
>
> Again thanks to all who took the time to post.
>
> Some pictures here:
> <http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq/Presentation/presentation.html>
>
>
>
> 73 Fernando N2FQ/6
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1567. Re: [cw_bugs] 1966 Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-06 00:44:11 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1559 Message: 1567

Hello David

Firstly let me say thank you for you detailed analysis.

I'm delighted to read what you've said and consider myself

fortunate.

The base is in very good condition. What did caught

my eyes though, was the new damper mounting screws.

Anyway, DR.. take and thanks for taking the time.

73 Fernando N2FQ/6

On Mar 5, 2011, at 3:15 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:

>
>
> The key, a Vibroplex Presentation model made in 1966 by Vibroplex of
> 833 Broadway, NY, NY was ordered with a standard base instead of the
> chrome base. In 1966 the standard base was gray as is this base.
>
> Of course, a standard Original could have been dismantled and fitted
> with the "Deluxe model" yoke which had a tapped hole as this one
> indeed does have for the attachment of the grounding braid, jeweled
> trunnion on the top, and bottom, the special lever of the
> Presentation which was slotted on the top for the removal of the
> main spring and had two tapped holes for machine screws to hold the
> main spring secure. Then add two red finger pieces, and a red
> circuit closer knob.
> And to top it off - literally - the threaded red plastic piece that
> was used to seal the hole left by the short jeweled trunnion screw
> at the which had been changed in the Deluxe line about 1948.
>
> The cost of the individual parts would have been prohibitive -
> Vibroplex didn't sell the parts wholesale so you could "kit" a key.
> Only if the owner ordered the key from Vibroplex or if he worked
> there (same thing) could he have made the key economically.
>
> The only evidence that it is a modified key is that the shorting
> braid isn't original - the original grounding braid was thinner and
> was a braid that was either tinned or silvered or made from tinned
> strands. However, most people who take apart the Deluxe type keys
> for cleaning of the bearings forget to remove the thin braid and end
> up breaking it. So they replace it with some sort of stranded

> wire. These days I use "Solder Wick".
>
> So Fernando, it seems like you have an authentic gray based
> Presentation - perhaps ordered by the Navy or someone who liked
> battle ship gray.
>
> If the gray base is as well taken care of as the fragile gold plated
> top, you can be assured it is indistinguishable from "factory made"
> as everything is correct on the key.
>
> Very 73,
>
> DR
>
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA
> SOWP, VWOA, OOTC, FISTS, CW-Ops, JARL-A1, A1-OP, ex-FOC 1271 ARRL-LM
> Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
> Radio-Officers Google Group -- Marine Morse Historic Recordings Page
>
>
>
> On Sat, Mar 5, 2011 at 3:45 PM, Fernando <n2fq@...> wrote:
> Hello
>
> Thanks to everyone who responded. I do have French's book
> and had consulted it. I also spoke with Vibroplex
> while ordering the top jeweled screw and
> Mr. Robbins affirmed that all presentations come with chromed
> bases.
>
> I suppose that it could have been misrepresented although
> when I purchased it their was no mention of it being a presentation
> model.
>
> I'll get it going and see how it plays.
>
> Again thanks to all who took the time to post.
>
> Some pictures here:
> <http://pages.sbcglobal.net/n2fq/Presentation/presentation.html>
>
>
>
> 73 Fernando N2FQ/6
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1568. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-06 02:16:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1564  Message: 1568

I've never heard of that company, however, Telegraph Apparatus Company of Chicago was Ted McElroy's company that made bugs during WW2.

Logo: http://www.telegraph-office.com/pages/images/TACo_label.jpg

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>
SOWP <http://www.sowp.org/>, VWOA <http://www.vwoa.org/>,
OOTC<http://www.ootc.us/>,
FISTS <http://www.fists.co.uk/>, CW-Ops <http://www.cwops.org/>,
JARL-A1<http://a1club.net/>,
A1-OP <http://www.arrl.org/a-1-op>, ex-FOC 1271 ARRL-LM<http://www.arrl.org/>
Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
Radio-Officers Google
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Marine
Morse Historic Recordings Page <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>

On Sat, Mar 5, 2011 at 3:07 PM, Paul <pegenaw@...> wrote:

> Hello all,
>
> I have 2 older bugs that have a name plate on them
> that say Telegraph Instruments Co. Chicago-no S/N
> when were they made and are they very collectable ?
> Thanks all.73
>
> Paul K8PG
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1569. Re: Bug ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-06 10:50:31 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1564  Message: 1569

Scroll down to key #090 on this page Paul: http://WWW.morsemad.Com/bugs.htm

Could that be the one ?
McElroy part owned company bug key. Collectible ? Yes.
Nicknamed the "Hole In The Wall" bug.

□ □ □ □
John / G0RDO
http://www.morsemad.com

# 1570. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-13 03:18:44 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1570

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time, which is Thursday, March 17, 0130-0330z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201103.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: Too many to list! Full details at naqcc.info/main_giveaways.html

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1571. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-13 14:23:13 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1571

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

TIME CHANGE! Murphy finally decided to move to Daylight Savings Time!!

Our March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Thursday, March 17, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201103.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: Too many to list! Full details at naqcc.info/main_giveaways.html

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1572. speed bug keyer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-16 05:47:23 UTC
From: hfdxer
Topic: 1572  Message: 1572

does anyone have info history on speed bug keyers made in brooklynn new york? similar to vibroplex and others.
Thanks
Railroad

# 1573. Re: [cwops] MIA No Longer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-16 23:16:42 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1573  Message: 1573

I've heard there's a multi-multi in YO looking for some ops.

fd

> Hopefully I'll see you all in May. I look forward to getting back into the mix of everything.

73,
Cal, K0DXC

_____
Minnesota Wireless Association mailing list
To post a message: MWA@...
List Help: http://mail.w0aa.org/mailman/listinfo/mwa_w0aa.org
MWA Official Web Site: http://www.w0aa.org

# 1574. RFTB Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-19 20:07:57 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1522  Message: 1574

Sunday is RFTB night.

This Sunday evening, Spring arrives in the Northern hemisphere. And it's Springtime when a young piggie's fancy turns to thoughts of RF!

And as the K6JSS key is handed off to K6JSS/0, the Missouri team, we cordially invite them to come join us in "The Sty".

As always, all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1575. RFTB Sunday noght - sorry!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-19 20:11:17 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1575  Message: 1575

Sunday is RFTB night. Sorry for the last e-mail which may have led you to think it was Saturday night.

This Sunday evening, Spring arrives in the Northern hemisphere. And it's Springtime when a young piggie's fancy turns to thoughts of RF!

And as the K6JSS key is handed off to K6JSS/0, the Missouri team, we cordially invite them to come join us in "The Sty".

As always, all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1576. NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint tomorrow night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-03-26 19:47:33 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1576  Message: 1576

Tomorrow night is the Spring edition of the NJQRP Homebrewer Sprint.

Participation in this event has been sparse lately, so we're going to try and do a little something about that. Hopefully, you'll have some time tomorrow evening to make some contacts. Propagation has been be7ter as of late - you'll never know who you might bump into!

The rules are simple; and can be found here at:

http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html

Even though the dates on the Website are off, do not be dismayed. The rules haven't changed - they're the same. And as always, the goal is to have some fun, make some contacts, meet old friends and make new ones.

Now, for those of you who aren't into CW, this is a Sprint that you can be involved in also. PSK counts as one of the modes. So all you folks out there who are into the digi modes, come on and join us and have some fun!

The official operating times are from 0000 - 0400 UTC Monday morning. If my feeble math skills haven't deserted me that would be:

8:00 PM to Midnight EDST
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM CDST
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM MDST
5:00 PM to 9:00 PM PDST

Hope to run into you on the bands tomorrow!

73/72 de Larry W2LJ

# 1577. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-04-10 22:55:45 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1577

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our April sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, April 13, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201104.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: Too many to list! Full details at naqcc.info/main_giveaways.html

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1578. RFTB tomorrow night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-04-16 22:51:20 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1578  Message: 1578

Spring has spring - the grass has - I wonder where the birdies is?

They are resting on my new wire antenna!

Have some fun Sunday night and join us for the Monthly RFTB - Run For the Bacon. The ONLY monthly QRP Sprint officially endorsed by the Flying Pigs QRP Club International. This is a friendly lil' Sprint where all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!! BUT we encourage all Piggies to hop into the trough and join us for some fun.

AND ..... K6JSS will be leaving the hands of our most capable Michigan friends before the Sprint begins - so we invite our Alabama friends to join in the fray and hand out some K6JSS/4 QSOs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1579. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-05-12 03:56:25 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 422  Message: 1579

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /GoBug-3.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : A New Bug for Outdoor and Portable Use

You can access this file at the URL:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/files/GoBug-3.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/us/yahoo/groups/original/members/web/index.html
Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>

# 1580. Eegads - RFTB is tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-05-15 23:05:21 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1580  Message: 1580

I've been so busy helping my kids with their Science Fair projects that I totally forgot!

Today is the third Sunday of May and tonight is RFTB!

The ONLY monthly QRP Sprint officially endorsed by the Flying Pigs QRP Club International. This is a friendly lil' Sprint where all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!! BUT we encourage all Piggies to hop into the trough and join us for some fun.

AND ..... K6JSS will be leaving the hands of our most capable Virginia friends before the Sprint begins - so we invite our Ohio friends to join in the fray and hand out some K6JSS/8 QSOs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1581. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-05-15 23:27:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1581

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our May sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Thursday, May 19, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201105.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: Too many to list! Full details at naqcc.info/main_giveaways.html

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

---

For those on the other side of the Atlantic, the next European Chapter sprint will be held on the 8th of June, 2011. The European Sprints bring the fun and excitement of the US sprints to those unable to take part due to the barriers of distance and time zone. Most of the rules for the US sprints apply, the main difference being the time at which they are held. For more details (including times, exchange and frequency) please see the rules on the website: http://naqcc-eu.org/

Those outside of Europe are also very welcome to participate. We have already seen the first transatlantic QSOs, proving just how effective the CW/QRP combination is over a long distance.

---

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1582. 1938 Mac Key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-05-25 14:54:10 UTC
From: Puck
Topic: 1582  Message: 1582

Yesterday I received what I think is a 1938 model Mac Key. The label says it is Deluxe model with serial number 2153 but it has a black wrinkle finish. It does however have the circuit closer and thin dot stabilizer.

It does not appear to have been repainted!

Another thing strange about it is that the lever return spring pulls the lever from the right rather than pushing from the left. I've not seen that before. Perhaps this key is a later model than the 1938?

73,
Puck W4PM

# 1583. Re: [cw_bugs] 1938 Mac Key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-05-25 15:06:05 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1582  Message: 1583

All normal, Puck.

73 Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: Puck
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 8:54 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] 1938 Mac Key?

Yesterday I received what I think is a 1938 model Mac Key. The label says it is Deluxe model with serial number 2153 but it has a black wrinkle finish. It does however have the circuit closer and thin dot stabilizer.

It does not appear to have been repainted!

Another thing strange about it is that the lever return spring pulls the lever from the right rather than pushing from the left. I've not seen that before. Perhaps this key is a later model than the 1938?

73,
Puck W4PM

# 1584. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-12 15:38:12 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1584

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, June 15, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201106.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1585. Re: NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-12 18:13:44 UTC
From: ae4rv
Topic: 927  Message: 1585

The NAQCC sprints are a blast. The two hours go by so fast and leave you wanting more. I can't wait for Tuesday night - I will be using a bug.

73 Geoff AE4RV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "NAQCC" <va3rj@...> wrote:
>
> NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
>
> Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, June 15, 0030-0230z.
>
> I will refer you to the proper URL:
>
> http://naqcc.info/sprint201106.html
>
> There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.
>
> Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.
>
> Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.
>
> This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
>
> If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.
>
> Come join us and have a real good time!
>
> 72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
> NAQCC #0004
>

# 1586. Re: NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-14 20:21:44 UTC
From: ae4rv
Topic: 927  Message: 1586

It's tonight, 8:30 - 10:00 EDT. You don't need to be a member to participate, the rules are here: http://naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html

It's a simple exchange, no serial number, just try to make some contacts. Hope to see you on the air.

73, Geoff AE4RV

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ae4rv" <royaltrux@...> wrote:
>
> The NAQCC sprints are a blast. The two hours go by so fast and leave you wanting more. I can't wait for Tuesday night - I will be using a bug.
>
> 73 Geoff AE4RV
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "NAQCC" <va3rj@> wrote:
> >
> > NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
> >
> > Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, June 15, 0030-0230z.
> >
> > I will refer you to the proper URL:
> >
> > http://naqcc.info/sprint201106.html
> >
> > There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.
> >
> > Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.
> >
> > Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.
> >
> > This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
> >
> > If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

> >
> > Come join us and have a real good time!
> >
> > 72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
> > NAQCC #0004
> >
>

# 1587. Re: NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-14 23:44:42 UTC
From: ae4rv
Topic: 927  Message: 1587

I meant to say 8:30 - 10:30 EDT....

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ae4rv" <royaltrux@...> wrote:
>
> It's tonight, 8:30 - 10:00 EDT. You don't need to be a member to participate, the rules are here: http://naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html
>
> It's a simple exchange, no serial number, just try to make some contacts. Hope to see you on the air.
>
> 73, Geoff AE4RV
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ae4rv" <royaltrux@> wrote:
> >
> > The NAQCC sprints are a blast. The two hours go by so fast and leave you wanting more. I can't wait for Tuesday night - I will be using a bug.
> >
> > 73 Geoff AE4RV
> >
> > --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "NAQCC" <va3rj@> wrote:
> > >
> > > NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!
> > >
> > > Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, June 15, 0030-0230z.
> > >
> > > I will refer you to the proper URL:
> > >
> > > http://naqcc.info/sprint201106.html
> > >
> > > There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.
> > >
> > > Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.
> > >
> > > Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.
> > >
> > > This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP

power levels to compete for awards.
> > >
> > > If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.
> > >
> > > Come join us and have a real good time!
> > >
> > > 72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
> > > NAQCC #0004
> > >
> >
>

# 1588. Re: GHD Bug for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-15 15:44:22 UTC
From: Ci Jones
Topic: 1588  Message: 1588

I have available for sale my GHD GN 207A bug. This is a great bug in excellent shape regularly used by me. I am selling it because I recently got back a bug that I sold to a friend. This bug was bought new by me for $430.00 plus shipping. My selling price is $275.00 including shipping. Pictures are available for those who are interested. Thanks and 73, Ci

Ci Jones, WU7R
SKCC #22T

# 1589. Father's Day RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-18 00:33:51 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 564  Message: 1589

This Sunday is YOUR day.

It's about relaxing, spending time with your loved ones, having some good food and perhaps indulging in your favorite hobby at the end o' the day? What better way to top off Father's Day than by spending some time with the Flying Pigs for the Run for the Bacon?

RFTB is the ONLY monthly QRP Sprint officially endorsed by the Flying Pigs QRP Club International. This is a friendly lil' Sprint where all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!! BUT we encourage all Piggies to hop into the trough and join us for some fun.

AND ..... K6JSS will be leaving the hands of our most capable Pennsylvania friends before the Sprint begins - so we invite our Washington State friends to join in the fray and hand out some K6JSS/7 QSOs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1590. A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-18 13:19:02 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1590  Message: 1590

Today I posted some pictures of the 'PaddleBug' which I recently completed. As many of you know, this is a design by Richard Meiss (WB9PLU) without whose help I might not have been able to put it on the air. I hope to catch some of you on the air with it some time.

Enjoy the pictures....

73
Tom Warren
W4TMW
skcc 6184T

ps; sorry about the date (1/1/2006)on them. I gotta figure out how to make the current date as the default.

# 1591. Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-18 22:51:28 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1590  Message: 1591

To see pix of the key, please look for the album named W4TMW.

73
Tom
W4TMW

"Tom" wrote:
>
>
> Today I posted some pictures of the 'PaddleBug' which I recently completed. As many of you know, this is a design by Richard Meiss (WB9PLU) without whose help I might not have been able to put it on the air. I hope to catch some of you on the air with it some time.
>
> Enjoy the pictures....
>
> 73
> Tom Warren
> W4TMW
> skcc 6184T
>
> ps; sorry about the date (1/1/2006)on them. I gotta figure out how to make the current date as the default.
>

# 1592. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-19 00:07:14 UTC
From: Edwin Rivera (YV5HUJ)
Topic: 1590  Message: 1592

What a beautiful key,
Tom, could you please upload a short video playing with this wonderful toy?

73
Edwin - YV5HUJ
yv5huj.org

---
De: Tom <mtnest@...>
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Enviado: sáb, junio 18, 2011 6:21:28 PM
Asunto: [cw_bugs] Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

To see pix of the key, please look for the album named W4TMW.

73
Tom
W4TMW

"Tom" wrote:
>
>
> Today I posted some pictures of the 'PaddleBug' which I recently completed. As
>many of you know, this is a design by Richard Meiss (WB9PLU) without whose help
>I might not have been able to put it on the air. I hope to catch some of you on
>the air with it some time.
>
>
> Enjoy the pictures....
>
> 73
> Tom Warren
> W4TMW
> skcc 6184T
>
> ps; sorry about the date (1/1/2006)on them. I gotta figure out how to make the
>current date as the default.
>

# 1593. Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-19 12:01:45 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1590  Message: 1593

Edwin,

Thanks, and glad you liked the key, I'm sorry but I do not have the capability to produce video on Youtube. However, here is a link showing Rich (WB9PLU) using one of his Paddle Bugs on youtube.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YiwiZ_yOkA

Also, if you would like to hear my key on the air, I would be most happy to schedule a qso with you.

73
Tom
W4TMW

.....

"Edwin Rivera \(YV5HUJ\)" wrote:
>
> What a beautiful key,
> Tom, could you please upload a short video playing with this wonderful toy?
>
> 73
> Edwin - YV5HUJ
> yv5huj.org

# 1594. Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-19 13:09:08 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1590  Message: 1594

Tom,
The craftsmanship is beautiful!
I can't imagine dealing with a common set of adjustments (paddle and bug) in the same key. Is it possible to change the spacing, spring tension, etc of the paddle without changing same on the bug? Or is it a compromise of the two?
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" <mtnest@...> wrote:
>
>
> Today I posted some pictures of the 'PaddleBug' which I recently completed. As many of you know, this is a design by Richard Meiss (WB9PLU) without whose help I might not have been able to put it on the air. I hope to catch some of you on the air with it some time.
>
> Enjoy the pictures....
>
> 73
> Tom Warren
> W4TMW
> skcc 6184T
>
> ps; sorry about the date (1/1/2006)on them. I gotta figure out how to make the current date as the default.
>

# 1595. Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-20 18:38:01 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1590  Message: 1595

Hi Milt.....

I use mine for bug use only so can't comment on iambic keying setting compromises.
No, the PaddleBug doesn't have independent adjustments (Iambic vs Bug)that I'm aware of. I haven't played around with this one to much as far as adjusting the dot 'weight' is concerned but have 2 interchangeable weights ( shown in the pictures) to use for fast (abt 22wpm and up) and slow (abt 10wpm to 18). I don't have a reader to analyze any of the code structure, just use the side-tone of my rig to dial in speeds then compare to the PaddleBug speed.

I initially had trouble getting the pendulum to make more then 4 or 5 ocillations but Rich pointed me in the right direction and with his tips and suggestions she came to life.

73
Tom
W4TMW

Milt wrote:
>
> Tom,
> The craftsmanship is beautiful!
> I can't imagine dealing with a common set of adjustments (paddle and bug) in the same key. Is it possible to change the spacing, spring tension, etc of the paddle without changing same on the bug? Or is it a compromise of the two?
> 73, Milt k4oso

# 1596. Re: A Paddle Bug is born.....

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-06-21 01:57:42 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1590  Message: 1596

Hi, Milt -

I agree - Tom did a fine job. Sort of a vindication of the design.
About the adjustments. They are a partial compromise, but since it is a two-lever bug, the dash adjustments can be the same for both the bug and paddle functions. The dot paddle action, which requires the pendulum to be restrained, probably would have to be adjusted for paddle use - this is usually as simple as reducing the contact spacing.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Tom,
> The craftsmanship is beautiful!
> I can't imagine dealing with a common set of adjustments (paddle and bug) in the same key. Is it possible to change the spacing, spring tension, etc of the paddle without changing same on the bug? Or is it a compromise of the two?
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" <mtnest@> wrote:
> >
> >
> > Today I posted some pictures of the 'PaddleBug' which I recently completed. As many of you know, this is a design by Richard Meiss (WB9PLU) without whose help I might not have been able to put it on the air. I hope to catch some of you on the air with it some time.
> >
> > Enjoy the pictures....
> >
> > 73
> > Tom Warren
> > W4TMW
> > skcc 6184T
> >
> > ps; sorry about the date (1/1/2006)on them. I gotta figure out how to make the current date as the default.
> >
>

# 1597. Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 05:35:19 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1597  Message: 1597

Are Vibroplex contacts made from solid silver slug of any thickness or are they electroplated silver and only a fairly thin coating?

I own a Champion and the contacts need trueing up and polished but I want to know just what I am up against before doing that.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1598. Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 13:07:27 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1598  Message: 1598

Hello folks

A quick question on something that's bothering me about one of my bugs, on the Martin JR hybrid bugs such as a JR with #4 hardware mounted on it, should I expect to find the old holes for the intended L type damper?

Also would one expect the bolts holding the U type damper to be recessed and flush with the base, or protruding?

Pictures appreciated if anyone can provide!

Thanks.

Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

# 1599. Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 14:29:16 UTC
From: David Holley
Topic: 1598  Message: 1599

Michael & Group,

I hope I can answer some of your questions about the old Martin Jr #4 hybrids. First on all the examples I have there are not any extra holes for an L shape damper. The bases were all drilled for the #4 hardware. As for your question on the damper bolts being counter sunk or exposed, I believe that they are just normal rounded head Vibroplex machine screws. I am away so I can't double check right now. There is a difference between the #4 Martin hybrids made in the early 1920's compared to the ones made in the 1930's. The early ones were based on the Martin Junior with close spaced terminals and upside down labels. The later ones look to have been a custom job based on the #4. These have wide spaced terminals and normal label orientation. I would be glad to send you some pictures of my keys if you like.

73 de Dave

Sent from my iPad

# 1600. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 14:18:59 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1598  Message: 1600

All of those old Juniors were special order. they weren't modified something else's, so don't expect to find holes for something else.

Vibroplex seemed to make what was requested. Most Juniors, as you know I have a rcord of those which have "surfaced," were "originals" on a narrow base. this was done as early as 1907. since the Junior was not an advertised bug, it can not be said what defines a Junior. In other wrods,I wouldn't call a #$ on a three inch base, a Junior. It is a #4 on a three inch base. It is a special order #4. I would have no absolute expectations. they used what parts were on the bench.

73 Fred - kt5x

On Wed, Jul 6, 2011 at 7:07 AM, Michael MacLeod <mm1ewa@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Hello folks
>
> A quick question on something that's bothering me about one of my bugs, on
> the Martin JR hybrid bugs such as a JR with #4 hardware mounted on it,
> should I expect to find the old holes for the intended L type damper?
>
> Also would one expect the bolts holding the U type damper to be recessed
> and flush with the base, or protruding?
>
> Pictures appreciated if anyone can provide!
>
> Thanks.
>
> Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ
>
>

# 1601. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 14:44:57 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1597  Message: 1601

The ones on mine seem to be a piece of silver bar welded or brazed to the support.  I have trued mine with a contact burnisher with no apparant detriment except for a small loss of silver.  They can be replaced if required, but I have never seen contacts that are completely gone, even on my 90 year old bugs with unknown commercial use.  A couple that have been unused for many years did require removing a small amount of oxide to function properly.
 Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: vk4wm <vk4acb@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wed, July 6, 2011 12:35:19 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex contacts

Are Vibroplex contacts made from solid silver slug of any thickness or are they electroplated silver and only a fairly thin coating?

I own a Champion and the contacts need trueing up and polished but I want to know just what I am up against before doing that.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1602. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 16:53:57 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1597  Message: 1602

solid silver. i polish them into convex surfaces that glide across each other. old ones are usually pitted from relatively high currents and voltages and cause problems until polished out.

fred - kt5x

On Tue, Jul 5, 2011 at 11:35 PM, vk4wm <vk4acb@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Are Vibroplex contacts made from solid silver slug of any thickness or are
> they electroplated silver and only a fairly thin coating?
>
> I own a Champion and the contacts need trueing up and polished but I want
> to know just what I am up against before doing that.
>
> 73 Wade VK4WM
>
>
>

# 1603. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 18:13:46 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1598  Message: 1603

Thanks Fred & Dave,
Might as well go on with 2nd question then :-) The T bar style damper, It appeared on #4s and Originals (as well as X) around 1920s, the period overlaps with Martin JR production, so the question is are any examples of Martin JR bugs with T bar damper known to exist? either as a 3" original or a #4 on a wide base?

Cheers
Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

--- On Wed, 6/7/11, David Holley <dholley@...> wrote:

From: David Holley <dholley@...>
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Wednesday, 6 July, 2011, 14:29

Michael & Group,

I hope I can answer some of your questions about the old Martin Jr #4 hybrids. First on all the examples I have there are not any extra holes for an L shape damper. The bases were all drilled for the #4 hardware. As for your question on the damper bolts being counter sunk or exposed, I believe that they are just normal rounded head Vibroplex machine screws. I am away so I can't double check right now. There is a difference between the #4 Martin hybrids made in the early 1920's compared to the ones made in the 1930's. The early ones were based on the Martin Junior with close spaced terminals and upside down labels. The later ones look to have been a custom job based on the #4. These have wide spaced terminals and normal label orientation. I would be glad to send you some pictures of my keys if you like.

73 de Dave

Sent from my iPad

# 1604. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 18:41:35 UTC
From: David Holley
Topic: 1598  Message: 1604

Michael & Group,

As for you latest question, I have examples of the three keys you mentioned but have never seen a Martin Junior with T bar damper. It is possible that one exists somewhere but in collecting Vibroplex for over 25 years I have never run across one. I have kept a listing of T bar damper keys for several years and they are rather common on Originals but much less so on #4's. One of the most interesting keys in my collection is a #4 on a 3 inch base that was put into a glass dome trophy case when new. It was probably special ordered for the OM for a retirement award. I haven't seen many Vibroplex from that era that were truly in new condition.

De Dave N5MO

Sent from my iPad

# 1605. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 18:43:10 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1598  Message: 1605

I have a list of 136 Juniors, and I don't recall any with the T-Bar damper.

Vibroplex wasted no parts. The T-damper came from the X keys. When they discontinued the X keys, they still had a stock of T-dampers, so they used them until they ran out. It is that simple.

What wasn't so simple is the boxed dash lever. the so called "improved" dash lever was introduced along with the D lables in about 1920. the improved dash lever was a manufacturing improvement, but arguably not a functional improvement. Apparently there were some of the box levers remaining at the change over because a few reappear on #6's in 1939, and again on Standard Radio (Air Force military order) bugs in 1943, but only the earliest ones made. They seemed to use up the last of that NOS for that project.

fred

On Wed, Jul 6, 2011 at 12:13 PM, Michael MacLeod <mm1ewa@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Thanks Fred & Dave,
>
>
> Might as well go on with 2nd question then :-) The T bar style damper, It
> appeared on #4s and Originals (as well as X) around 1920s, the period
> overlaps with Martin JR production, so the question is are any examples of
> Martin JR bugs with T bar damper known to exist? either as a 3" original or
> a #4 on a wide base?
>
>
> Cheers
>
>

# 1606. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 18:58:47 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1598  Message: 1606

That's interesting, Dave. I do have one (a Junior) that is in near new condition. Most were heavily used by professionals as they were special order keys for the purpose of being carried to work in one's coat pocket, by ops for whom the #4 was just too light on the desk to stay still.

mine is one of two, almost adjacent serials, with chromed (not nickeled) hardware. I know that mine was special ordered by a professional telegrapher as a Christmas gift for his 12 year old son, and I am betting the other was ordered at the same time for some other professional's kid. thus mine never worked for a living, either, eventually passed through several generations until sold to me. it is about my favorite bug to use in part because it is so handsome.

73 fred kt5x

On Wed, Jul 6, 2011 at 12:41 PM, David Holley <dholley@...>wrote:

> **
>
>
> Michael & Group,
>
> As for you latest question, I have examples of the three keys you mentioned
> but have never seen a Martin Junior with T bar damper. It is possible that
> one exists somewhere but in collecting Vibroplex for over 25 years I have
> never run across one. I have kept a listing of T bar damper keys for several
> years and they are rather common on Originals but much less so on #4's. One
> of the most interesting keys in my collection is a #4 on a 3 inch base that
> was put into a glass dome trophy case when new. It was probably special
> ordered for the OM for a retirement award. I haven't seen many Vibroplex
> from that era that were truly in new condition.
>
> De Dave N5MO
>
> Sent from my iPad
>
>

# 1607. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-06 19:24:05 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1598  Message: 1607

Thanks Dave/Fred
I've wondered about the possibility of a Martin Jr existing with the T bar as the time period overlaps, theoretically they could have been made I guess.

I have a JR with a U damper but other hardware is what one would expect for a JR, I suspect its been retro fitted with the U damper :-(
Cheers
Michael - MM1EWA/KD0LEJ

--- On Wed, 6/7/11, Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...> wrote:

From: Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...>
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex JR hybrids
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: Wednesday, 6 July, 2011, 18:43

I have a list of 136 Juniors, and I don't recall any with the T-Bar damper.

Vibroplex wasted no parts.  The T-damper came from the X keys.  When they discontinued the X keys, they still had a stock of T-dampers, so they used them until they ran out.  It is that simple.

What wasn't so simple is the boxed dash lever.  the so called "improved" dash lever was introduced along with the D lables in about 1920.  the improved dash lever was a manufacturing improvement, but arguably not a functional improvement.  Apparently there were some of the box levers remaining at the change over because a few reappear on #6's in 1939, and again on Standard Radio (Air Force military order) bugs in 1943,  but only the earliest ones made.  They seemed to use up the last of that NOS for that project.

fred

On Wed, Jul 6, 2011 at 12:13 PM, Michael MacLeod <mm1ewa@...> wrote:

Thanks Fred & Dave,
Might as well go on with 2nd question then :-) The T bar style damper, It appeared on #4s and Originals (as well as X) around 1920s, the period overlaps with Martin JR production, so the question is are any examples of Martin JR bugs with T bar damper known to exist? either as a 3" original or a #4 on a wide base?

Cheers

# 1608. Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-07 13:12:57 UTC
From: VK4ACB
Topic: 1597  Message: 1608

Thank you both for the information Willis and Fred, I see what you mean, I carefully cleaned the perimeter of the contacts and can now see the thickness of the actual contact, there is still plenty of material left on them so they should respond nicely.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1609. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-07 18:37:02 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1609  Message: 1609

Must say, *DR*, that I don't think I know "*the correct*" way to do anything ;-) And i don't have a Dremel.

I use a polishing cloth, thick, soft, and impregnated with polishing compound. I put the screw containing the contact into the chuck of my portable battery operated vari-speed drill as if it is the drill bit. By spinning the contact while it is pressed into the soft polishing compound saturated clothe, the center of the contact receives the least abrasion and the edges the most producing a polished convex surface. AFTER achieving such a surface, then i only use DeOX on it (as opposed to using Babe, the big Blue Ox).

Step two is that I always plug my bug into a special jack which has a 1 mfd capacitor across it. My theory is that the charged up capacitor bridges any microsecond gaps produced by the rubbing/bouncing contact surfaces, eliminating "scratchy dits."

But if you blame me for these statements, I'll deny them ;-)

73, Fred - it wasn't my fault - kt5x

say no to trident

P.S. Just in from a 12 mile run, preparing to do Mt Kendall (mountain run) next weekend. When one goes as slowly as I do, it's EZ

http://www.silvertonspecialevents.com/silverton_special_events_029.htm

On Thu, Jul 7, 2011 at 11:29 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Hello FD,
>
> I believe your little comments about rounding contacts - at least I hope it
> was you that I learned it from - by using a rotary machine - what is the
> name of those hand held pen type devices? - and taking a buffing felt
> against the contact to clean them, caused the buffing bullet shaped felt to
> randomly spin off the contact in such a way that the contact was left
> slightly domed in the center.
>
> In any event, would you post a message about how to produce a correct domed
> contact - it would eliminate lots of poor signals on the bands!
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>

> SOWP <http://www.sowp.org/>, VWOA <http://www.vwoa.org/>, OOTC<http://www.ootc.us/>,
> FISTS <http://www.fists.co.uk/>, CW-Ops <http://www.cwops.org/>,
CFO<http://groups.google.com/group/Chicken-Fat-Operators-Club?hl=en>,
> A1-OP <http://www.arrl.org/a-1-op>, ex-FOC 1271 ARRL-LM<http://www.arrl.org/>
> Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
> Radio-Officers Google Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>--
Marine
> Morse Historic Recordings Page <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>
>
>
>
> On Thu, Jul 7, 2011 at 9:12 AM, VK4ACB <vk4acb@...> wrote:
>
>> Thank you both for the information Willis and Fred, I see what you mean,
>> I carefully cleaned the perimeter of the contacts and can now see the
>> thickness of the actual contact, there is still plenty of material left
>> on them so they should respond nicely.
>>
>> 73 Wade VK4WM
>>
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>

# 1610. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 12:45:32 UTC
From: VK4ACB
Topic: 1609  Message: 1610

A 12 mile run! I'm worn out just reading that Fred, the two adjustable contacts in my Vibroplex Champion are not easily removable from the short and tall contact posts, Vibroplex says on their contact replacement page they use a special tool to, I guess, press fit the new contact into the end of the adjuster screws without bending the threaded part, however I reckon I could come up with a fixture to hold the screw and post so I can swing it in my lathe then I could use a finely honed form tool to carefully shape the contact, removing the least possible material doing so of course or maybe use a lapping tool to do much the same operation as you described to the contact, it would pay to do a dummy run on some scrap first to prove the method of course!

The two fixed contacts would require fixtures too but with a bit of thought I should be able to come up with something to hold them firmly and safely to repeat the exercise, or maybe for all that I may just try to hand lap them into shape!

I have Deoxit and ProGold here to finish them off.

Interesting idea about the capacitor, worth a try, my experiments trying to make my fist sound like anything reasonable have demonstrated that I need at least the recommended 10 to 15 thou clearance between the lever and the dit side lever stop screw to get a firm enough strike of the contacts to help prevent the scratchiness and of course how the dit contacts are adjusted has a major bearing on preventing it happening too, well that's my take on it.

My biggest problem is getting the timing right going from a last dit to the dah in V or 4 so that it does not partially cut the last dit or sounds like a slight pause, not easy at the slow speed I am comfortable at, it was suggested to me to practice a string of ditdahditdah etc and that has helped but still needs more polishing.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1611. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 13:41:11 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1609  Message: 1611

Lessee, Wade ...

* the older contact points were smaller that the screw and come right out. the newer ones are larger and don't, much more difficult to deal with just as you say, one must remove the whole post to press the contact into the post. Surely they use a tool to do that, but i have been able to do it with nothing but good looks ;-)

* It doesn't work as well, but none the less seems to dome, just hand holding the contact imbedded in a screw still mounted on a post, to a soft polishing wheel.

* Modern solid state rigs are so responsive that they actually try to follow the scratches or bounces of the contacts. Grid block or cathode keying of the older tube radios did not. Large loading capacitor will overcome this aspect.

* Old time bug operators were very insistent that beginners open up the gap and increase the spring resistance to generate firm dits. Keying today's equipment that isn't really necessary.

* Old dit springs lose their tension, spring, and you can often end problems creating good dits by replacing it. i had a bug (1908) with which the first dit was almost always two dits, split in other wrods, until I replaced the dit spring with a new one after which it made perfect dits.

Hope these tid-bits are helpful steepening your experiential curve

73, FD - kt5x

# 1612. Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 14:00:32 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1609  Message: 1612

Wade,
It is quite easy once you catch on to the fact that sending either dots or dashes on a bug is not a "static", either-or operation. The process of sending is a fluid, swing operation. While you are pressing the dot lever, your dash finger is moving away from the paddle (to some degree) so that it starts back toward the dash lever in the rhythm in which you are sending. It might sound complicated, but think of it as a pendulum operation with varying delays, depending on the character. Only if you are sending the "error" sign (.....) or a long dash (daaaaaaaaah) is it a static operation. In my opinion, practicing with "ditdahditdahditdah" will not help your problem. I suggest you practice sending a continuous string of "V"'s until you can feel the fluidity of the operation that is necessary to overcome the problem. Once you feel this rhythm, you will be on the road to bug mastery. Good luck, and feel free to mention any other bug-related issues.
73, Milt K4OSO
A serious bug nut

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, VK4ACB <vk4acb@...> wrote:
>
>
> My biggest problem is getting the timing right going from a last dit to
> the dah in V or 4 so that it does not partially cut the last dit or
> sounds like a slight pause, not easy at the slow speed I am comfortable
> at, it was suggested to me to practice a string of ditdahditdah etc and
> that has helped but still needs more polishing.
>
> 73 Wade VK4WM
>

# 1613. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 15:52:20 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1609  Message: 1613

```
>
>
>
> * Old dit springs lose their tension, spring, and you can often end
> problems creating good dits by replacing it. i had a bug (1908) with
> which the first dit was almost always two dits, split in other wrods,
> until I replaced the dit spring with a new one after which it made
> perfect dits.
>
> Hope these tid-bits are helpful steepening your experiential curve
>
> 73, FD - kt5x
One trick I use on old bugs like that is to put a very small piece of
foam,
experiment with different densities, between the dit spring, it makes up
for some lost tension, and also "cushions" the spring from bouncing as
much. Makes for very nice dits when adjusted properly.

For contacts I have some silver "rod" and turn it in the lathe to the
correct
size, almost all bug contacts are press fit into the screw, easy to
turn up
a batch of contacts and replace them on older bugs. Same with the
contacts on the dit spring and the dash lever, grind off the rear and punch
off the old contact, then just "rivit" the new ones back in place.

73 Merv K9FD/KH6

>
>
>
```

# 1614. Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 16:35:07 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1609  Message: 1614

Thanks Merv,
But...I think your explanation provides the reason most of us don't do it.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Merv Schweigert <k9fd@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> For contacts I have some silver "rod" and turn it in the lathe to the
> correct
> size, almost all bug contacts are press fit into the screw, easy to
> turn up
> a batch of contacts and replace them on older bugs. Same with the
> contacts on the dit spring and the dash lever, grind off the rear and punch
> off the old contact, then just "rivit" the new ones back in place.
>
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1615. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 16:35:40 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1609  Message: 1615

Instead of foam I use the small soft plastic pieces sold for non skid feet at Wal-Mart and other sundry stores.  They are self adhesive and hold up longer than foam.  If you select a thickness that does not quite touch the spring arm they make a very nice damper.
 Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Merv Schweigert <k9fd@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Fri, July 8, 2011 10:52:20 AM
Subject: Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

>
>
>*  Old dit springs lose their tension, spring, and you can often end problems
>creating good dits by replacing it.  i had a bug (1908) with which the first dit
>was almost always two dits, split in other wrods, until I replaced the dit
>spring with a new one after which it made perfect dits.
>
>Hope these tid-bits are helpful steepening your experiential curve
>
>73,  FD - kt5x
>One trick I use on old bugs like that is to put  a very small piece of foam, experiment with different densities,  between the dit spring,  it makes up for some lost tension,  and also "cushions" the spring from bouncing as much.  Makes for very nice dits when adjusted properly.

For contacts I have some silver "rod" and turn it in the lathe to the correct size,  almost all bug contacts are press fit into the screw,  easy to turn up a batch of contacts and replace them on older bugs.  Same with the contacts on the dit spring and the dash lever,  grind off the rear and punch off the old contact,  then just "rivit" the new ones back in place.

73 Merv K9FD/KH6

# 1616. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 17:33:52 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1609  Message: 1616

Irrellevant I suppose, but I LOVE your call sign. All of it. The K9 (canine), the FD, field day or Fred, and the /KH6

73, Fred "FD"

also; W5YA / qrp, and WS0TA on SOTA peaks

73 Merv K9FD/KH6

# 1617. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 17:47:17 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1609  Message: 1617

I think my dog thought K9FD was what it was all about, since he got to go & hang out at Field Day. The food he begged & stole was the best, apparently.

73 Kate K6HTN

On Fri, Jul 8, 2011 at 10:33 AM, Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Irrellevant I suppose, but I LOVE your call sign. All of it. The K9
> (canine), the FD, field day or Fred, and the /KH6
>
> 73, Fred "FD"
>
> also; W5YA / qrp, and WS0TA on SOTA peaks
>
>
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
>
>

# 1618. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 18:08:20 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1609  Message: 1618

Tnx Fred, I like it on CW of course. Got it back in the 70's when
incentive license came
along. For a while it seemed to "long" for Dxing so changed to KH7C for
a couple years,
took the old call back before it went on the lottery. Probably move
back to the mainland
soon, so will need it then. Used to work field day a lot, but not in
recent years. No one
on this island is active and FD by yourself is not much fun.
73 Merv K9FD/KH6 Molokai Island,
>
>
> Irrellevant I suppose, but I LOVE your call sign. All of it. The K9
> (canine), the FD, field day or Fred, and the /KH6
> 73, Fred "FD"
> also; W5YA / qrp, and WS0TA on SOTA peaks
>
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
>
>

# 1619. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-08 18:09:56 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1609  Message: 1619

Sounds like your dog and I would get along well, I like the food at
field day
as well usually. A few brews and some BBQ is FD at the best.
73 Merv K9FD
>
>
> I think my dog thought K9FD was what it was all about, since he got to
> go & hang out at Field Day. The food he begged & stole was the best,
> apparently.
>
> 73 Kate K6HTN
>
> On Fri, Jul 8, 2011 at 10:33 AM, Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...
> <mailto:just.one.hill@...>> wrote:
>
>
>
> Irrellevant I suppose, but I LOVE your call sign. All of it. The
> K9 (canine), the FD, field day or Fred, and the /KH6
> 73, Fred "FD"
> also; W5YA / qrp, and WS0TA on SOTA peaks
>
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1620. Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 01:41:13 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1609  Message: 1620

Ok thanks Milt, you are right the "V"'s work, everytime I sit down for a practice session the first series dont always pan out right then I settle in to it and get some sort of rythm, after a while I find doing sequence's of a u v 4 helps too, my Aussie callsign exercise's the v 4 and for good measure w !!

like the old song said "it dont mean a thing if you aint got that swing"

73 Wade VK4WM
SKCC # 5621

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:
>
> Wade,
> It is quite easy once you catch on to the fact that sending either dots or dashes on a bug is not a "static", either-or operation. The process of sending is a fluid, swing operation. While you are pressing the dot lever, your dash finger is moving away from the paddle (to some degree) so that it starts back toward the dash lever in the rhythm in which you are sending. It might sound complicated, but think of it as a pendulum operation with varying delays, depending on the character. Only if you are sending the "error" sign (.....) or a long dash (daaaaaaaaah) is it a static operation. In my opinion, practicing with "ditdahditdahditdah" will not help your problem. I suggest you practice sending a continuous string of "V"'s until you can feel the fluidity of the operation that is necessary to overcome the problem. Once you feel this rhythm, you will be on the road to bug mastery. Good luck, and feel free to mention any other bug-related issues.
> 73, Milt K4OSO
> A serious bug nut

# 1621. Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 02:02:53 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1609  Message: 1621

> * It doesn't work as well, but none the less seems to dome, just hand
> holding the contact imbedded in a screw still mounted on a post, to a soft
> polishing wheel.

Thanks Fred, the obvious escaped me but I hope I would have thought of it eventually :-)
that would work, by holding the post and turning the screw with the contact against the mop
the post will act very nicely as the pivot point to get a nice circular motion.

> * Modern solid state rigs are so responsive that they actually try to follow
> the scratches or bounces of the contacts. Grid block or cathode keying of
> the older tube radios did not. Large loading capacitor will overcome this
> aspect.

of course, been a while since I had to think about that, sensitive they damn well are!

> * Old dit springs lose their tension, spring, and you can often end
> problems creating good dits by replacing it. i had a bug (1908) with which
> the first dit was almost always two dits, split in other wrods, until I
> replaced the dit spring with a new one after which it made perfect dits.

My Champion is a 1951 model, now that with help from here and elsewhere I have it adjusted
reasonably ok there is no evidence that I can detect that might indicate the u spring is
weak.

> Hope these tid-bits are helpful steepening your experiential curve
>
> 73, FD - kt5x

Steepening my experimental curve !! and I thought I'd just got over the first hill !! but
it depends how you mean it, steep up or steep down 8-)

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1622. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 02:29:15 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1597  Message: 1622

meant that you might collect experiences in a shorter period of time. Don't think there are definitive answers, but I can tell you that I have sometimes puzzled over the problem of a key not sending well, for YEARS, before hopefully finally finding what was wrong with it. It isn't necessarily obvious at all. It isn't all in the operator.

Anwayway, I have had close to one hundred bugs here over the years. I have sold or traded off all but a handful. The handful I have kept are not necessarily the best senders, but the most esoteric and the most different from one another in appearance, design, or use.

The 1908 vibroplex with the very rare NorCross plate made split dits. Experience led me fairly rapidly to the dit spring.

The 1910 Double Lever wasn't so easy. I could not find a single person who actually knew how to adjust them, nor could I find a single collector who had a copy of any early vibroplex instructions for adjusting one. I feel stupid now, it took me several years to figure out what now seems obvious. Hard to explain the solution, the problem is that with two independent levers, it is possible to close both at the same time. obviously, the dash closure will cover up any dits that might be going on. Kinda iambic actually.

I have a wonderfully rare and exotic Bent Dow from the forties. It too was plagued by split dits. There were several things working together so the solution wasn't easy or obvious.

Both the early mecograph, and the Australian copy ca;;ed Simplex Auto, use a release mechanism to make dits, opposite of a vibroplex. The spring is always loaded, and you release it.

All of them are so much fun to use!

73, Fred - kt5x

www.KT5X.com

# 1623. Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 02:34:08 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1609  Message: 1623

Thanks for the reply Merv, the silver rod would be a bit thin on the ground around here I would imagine, I have a work and play background in precision machining so I probably would expect to make up contacts out of brass and tip the work end with hard silver solder, that should be a good test of my skills, these days I dont have access to Oxy/acetylene equipment, a micro size jewellers torch would have been perfect for this job, bottle hire is expensive here but I have a MAPP gas torch that gets enough heat to silver solder quite well, ordinary propane would do something this size easily too but the MAPP gives me more control because of the flame profile out of the torch for small items, it would be easy to end up with a molten blob of brass/silver solder alloy! now there's a thought, just melt silver solder into a small metal tube to form a solid rod and machine the outer metal away !! genius! (my xyl reckons that's doubtful)

I now own another bug, an Australian made Simplex Auto, sadly the flat spring steel blade that has the dot contact on it has fractured near the mounting post and is now too short, it was two inches long, now it is an inch and three quarter long, if I cannot find a length of spring steel the right thickness and length the only method of repair I can see is to rivet an extension onto the end and hope it works ok but I will try hard to find the spring steel, I am ripping apart every redundant printer I have in my shed to see if there is anything resembling what I want.

73 Wade VK4WM
SKCC # 5621
>
> For contacts I have some silver "rod" and turn it in the lathe to the
> correct
> size, almost all bug contacts are press fit into the screw, easy to
> turn up
> a batch of contacts and replace them on older bugs. Same with the
> contacts on the dit spring and the dash lever, grind off the rear and punch
> off the old contact, then just "rivit" the new ones back in place.
>
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1624. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 02:55:52 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1624  Message: 1624
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I now own another bug, an Australian made Simplex Auto, sadly the flat spring steel blade that has the dot contact on it has fractured near the mounting post and is now too short, it was two inches long, now it is an inch and three quarter long, if I cannot find a length of spring steel the right thickness and length the only method of repair I can see is to rivet an extension onto the end and hope it works ok but I will try hard to find the spring steel, I am ripping apart every redundant printer I have in my shed to see if there is anything resembling what I want.

73 Wade VK4WM
SKCC # 5621

OOoohhh, I like the Simplex Auto. here's mine:

fred kt5x

# 1625. Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 03:12:01 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1597  Message: 1625

Hi, All -

I have found another solution for scratchy and "bouncy" dots when keying a very unforgiving solid state rig. I use the bug to key an MFJ keyer that has a "semiautomatic" function. The electronics in the keyer are very forgiving of bounces and scratches, but what comes out the other end is exactly what you told the bug to do - including all of your timing and "swing" peculiarities. The problem that I have found with a capacitor that you have access to only the "C" in an RC circuit; the inaccessible components vary with the rig that you are keying, and the effectiveness of this approach may also vary.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1626. Re: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 04:20:01 UTC
From: Pete Ferrand
Topic: 1609  Message: 1626

Hi Wade:

I've never had a Simplex unfortunately but years ago I hit upon a solution to the spring steel issue that would probably work. Just head for the nearest dollar shop and but a retracting tape measure. The inner core is made of actual spring steel that I've used for a variety of things, including today's project of replacing the mainspring on a 1919 vintage Viboplex. I've used the marked part of the tape for contacts of various projects as well. The fabric measuring tapes won't work :)

And Rich...I use the same technique of keying a keyer, in this case an AEA CK-1. In addition to the advantages you name, it gives me a uniform sidetone for every transmitter.

Those without a keyer at hand can just use a relay powered through the key; the relay's inertia will handle the scratchy dits. The slower you send the larger the appropriate relay :)

-Pete
WB2QLL
Somers, WI

-----Original Message-----
>From: vk4wm <vk4acb@...>
>Sent: Jul 9, 2011 9:34 PM
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Subject: Fred: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex contacts
>
>Thanks for the reply Merv, the silver rod would be a bit thin on the ground around here I would imagine, I have a work and play background in precision machining so I probably would expect to make up contacts out of brass and tip the work end with hard silver solder, that should be a good test of my skills, these days I dont have access to Oxy/acetylene equipment, a micro size jewellers torch would have been perfect

# 1627. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-10 15:36:47 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1624  Message: 1627

A good replacement for a spring is to buy a "feeler guage" they can be
found in
individual sizes many times at auto repair parts stores. I dont
remember the
exact size but perhaps 20 thousands thick feeler guage stock, you can mic
the old one to be sure, a new spring can be cut and bent from this spring
material quite well and any size new spring can be made.
They also used to be called go - no go guage here in the states.
73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
> I now own another bug, an Australian made Simplex Auto, sadly the flat
> spring steel blade that has the dot contact on it has fractured near
> the mounting post and is now too short, it was two inches long, now it
> is an inch and three quarter long, if I cannot find a length of spring
> steel the right thickness and length the only method of repair I can
> see is to rivet an extension onto the end and hope it works ok but I
> will try hard to find the spring steel, I am ripping apart every
> redundant printer I have in my shed to see if there is anything
> resembling what I want.
>
> 73 Wade VK4WM
> SKCC # 5621
>

# 1628. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-11 13:31:56 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1624  Message: 1628

G'day Merv
That is an excellent suggestion Merv, would you believe I had a set of feeler gauges right in front of me that I had been using to set the contacts! but it didnt register at all to my brain! I have made up a new spring using some spring steel out of a steel tape measure, a great idea suggested to me by Pete WB2QLL and it worked out really well, the end where the tape attaches to the retractor spring even had the correct size hole to take the silver contact from the old spring, I removed the contact by using a pair of small side cutters and pliers to gently work the peened over end until it was worked back into a size that fell out of the hole in the original spring then I gently peened the end down again until the contact was nice and tight in the new spring, I also found that a Adel Nibbler just chomped the excess material away until I could use a fine file and get the sides parallel again and the right length (2 inches) to the spring, BTW the original spring is only 15 thou thick, when I tried using the key I was dissapointed because it didnt work properly, it was double bouncing but then I realized the adjusting screw was on the wrong side of the spring, fixed that and away it went, some of the photos on the web in various collections show that adjuster screw to be on the wrong side!

Now I am tracking down black crackle paint to refinish the base of the Simplex Auto it is in poor shape, I am getting a spray can from a Auto refinishing supply company but I have tried that stuff before with mixed results but it has been interesting to see what is on the web about it too, I have a HRO 5T that needs refurbishing so I want something reliable to work with, the old process of stoving the painted panel to maximise the wrinkle seems to have been lost.

73 Wade VK4WM

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Merv Schweigert <k9fd@...> wrote:
>
> A good replacement for a spring is to buy a "feeler guage" they can be
> found in
> individual sizes many times at auto repair parts stores. I dont
> remember the
> exact size but perhaps 20 thousands thick feeler guage stock, you can mic
> the old one to be sure, a new spring can be cut and bent from this spring
> material quite well and any size new spring can be made.
> They also used to be called go - no go guage here in the states.
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> >
> >
> > I now own another bug, an Australian made Simplex Auto, sadly the flat
> > spring steel blade that has the dot contact on it has fractured near
> > the mounting post and is now too short, it was two inches long, now it
> > is an inch and three quarter long, if I cannot find a length of spring
> > steel the right thickness and length the only method of repair I can
> > see is to rivet an extension onto the end and hope it works ok but I
> > will try hard to find the spring steel, I am ripping apart every

> > redundant printer I have in my shed to see if there is anything
> > resembling what I want.
> >
> > 73 Wade VK4WM
> > SKCC # 5621
> >
>

# 1629. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-11 14:00:36 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1624  Message: 1629

Wade,

I have used Krylon Wrinkle Finish # 3370 successfully. Look at the opening page right angle bug on my website, < www.KT5X.com > to see what it looks like.

Try it on a test surface before trying it on the bug. It needs to be applied fairly thick. It doesn't wrinkle up right away, but over the next two DAYS, with most of the wrinkling happening in the first 12 hours. It needs to be in a good temperature environment, room temperature is good. also, let it harden for two WEEKS or more if you can stand the wait before reassembling the bug. Otherwise, the hardware will slowly sink into the paint which is thick.

73, Fred - kt5x

G'day Merv
That is an excellent suggestion Merv, would you believe I had a set of feeler gauges right in front of me that I had been using to set the contacts! but it didnt register at all to my brain! I have made up a new spring using some spring steel out of a steel tape measure, a great idea suggested to me by Pete WB2QLL and it worked out really well, the end where the tape attaches to the retractor spring even had the correct size hole to take the silver contact from the old spring, I removed the contact by using a pair of small side cutters and pliers to gently work the peened over end until it was worked back into a size that fell out of the hole in the original spring then I gently peened the end down again until the contact was nice and tight in the new spring, I also found that a Adel Nibbler just chomped the excess material away until I could use a fine file and get the sides parallel again and the right length (2 inches) to the spring, BTW the original spring is only 15 thou thick, when I tried using the key I was dissapointed because it didnt work properly, it was double bouncing but then I realized the adjusting screw was on the wrong side of the spring, fixed that and away it went, some of the photos on the web in various collections show that adjuster screw to be on the wrong side!

Now I am tracking down black crackle paint to refinish the base of the Simplex Auto it is in poor shape, I am getting a spray can from a Auto refinishing supply company but I have tried that stuff before with mixed results but it has been interesting to see what is on the web about it too, I have a HRO 5T that needs refurbishing so I want something reliable to work with, the old process of stoving the painted panel to maximise the wrinkle seems to have been lost.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1630. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-12 12:55:33 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1624  Message: 1630

Wow! what a great restoration job and what an interesting key the Codetrol is, I can understand your reluctance to see it go Fred, so does it work on the same principle as the Simplex Auto, releasing the pendulum or is it like the standard Vibroplex action but sideways instead? hard to work out from the photographs.

That wrinkle finish looks great, I pick up the can from a local supplier tomorrow I hope but I doubt if it is the same brand as what you used, importing aerosol cans into Australia has some problems I thought I read somewhere, if this local stuff does not work out I will have to consider doing that if I can.

Sadly these days any access to the electroplating shop that was part of the Reclamation Engineering business I was part of for 21 years has long gone, good platers here are hard to find nowdays.

Thanks Fred, great web pages.

73 Wade VK4WM

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Wade,
>
> I have used Krylon Wrinkle Finish # 3370 successfully. Look at the opening page right angle bug on my website, < www.KT5X.com > to see what it looks like.
>
> Try it on a test surface before trying it on the bug. It needs to be applied fairly thick. It doesn't wrinkle up right away, but over the next two DAYS, with most of the wrinkling happening in the first 12 hours. It needs to be in a good temperature environment, room temperature is good. also, let it harden for two WEEKS or more if you can stand the wait before reassembling the bug. Otherwise, the hardware will slowly sink into the paint which is thick.
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>

# 1631. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-12 13:40:02 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1624  Message: 1631

The Codetrol has a mechansim like the Vibroplex. It feels like a Vibroplex. They were made in the early 1950's, I say, "They," were made, in fact, it seems that very few were actually made. Eight are known to exist including the one I restored which was a prototype given to a telegrapher to try out, then, because he didn't really like it and it had never been actually finished, passed on to a kid. I doubt if twenty were ever made. I don't consider it a significant key, but a few collectors have chosen to pay handsomely for them (as in thousands).

Yes, I think shipping aerosol cans has problems, but I imagine something similar is made there. Like I say, try it out on a test surface to get a sense for how thick to lay it on to get the kind of wrinkling you want. And remember, the wrinkling takes place over time, not immediately.

73, Fred

Wow! what a great restoration job and what an interesting key the Codetrol is, I can understand your reluctance to see it go Fred, so does it work on the same principle as the Simplex Auto, releasing the pendulum or is it like the standard Vibroplex action but sideways instead? hard to work out from the photographs.

That wrinkle finish looks great, I pick up the can from a local supplier tomorrow I hope but I doubt if it is the same brand as what you used, importing aerosol cans into Australia has some problems I thought I read somewhere, if this local stuff does not work out I will have to consider doing that if I can.

Sadly these days any access to the electroplating shop that was part of the Reclamation Engineering business I was part of for 21 years has long gone, good platers here are hard to find nowdays.

Thanks Fred, great web pages.

73 Wade VK4WM

# 1632. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-12 13:55:02 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1624  Message: 1632

Hi, guys.

Something I tried way back when was to use different thinners with enamels. I used lacquer thinner once. I painted it on a panel and the rapid evaporation caused the winkle effect. After 3 or 4 days, I baked the panel and it became very hard. There is another thinner that is used to speed up enamel "drying" and it is also used as the fuel for Zippo cigarette lighters, naphtha. It needs to be accelerated with heat, though. The wrinkle finish is caused by the rapid, but uneven evaporation of the thinner.

Different enamel respond differently, so test on scrap first.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka

On 7/12/2011 7:40 AM, Fred Maas wrote:
> Yes, I think shipping aerosol cans has problems, but I imagine
> something similar is made there. Like I say, try it out on a test
> surface to get a sense for how thick to lay it on to get the kind of
> wrinkling you want. And remember, the wrinkling takes place over
> time, not immediately.

---
Get Free Email with Video Mail & Video Chat!
http://www.netzero.net/freeemail?refcd=NZTAGOUT1FREM0210

# 1633. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-13 13:25:20 UTC
From: vk4wm
Topic: 1624  Message: 1633

G'day Joe

I will be trying as many suggestions as I can, thank you for your's Joe I will most certainly try it, I got the spray can of crackle paint today from the Auto parts shop, it is a high temperature paint for use around engines, I dont know until I try how fine the crackle finish will be, there are a few ideas on the web about how to crackle paint, apparently Tung oil was added to paint too in the past but info is scant about just how the process went.

Interesting times ahead!

73 Wade VK4WM

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, guys.
>
> Something I tried way back when was to use different thinners with
> enamels. I used lacquer thinner once. I painted it on a panel and the
> rapid evaporation caused the winkle effect. After 3 or 4 days, I baked
> the panel and it became very hard. There is another thinner that is
> used to speed up enamel "drying" and it is also used as the fuel for
> Zippo cigarette lighters, naphtha. It needs to be accelerated with
> heat, though. The wrinkle finish is caused by the rapid, but uneven
> evaporation of the thinner.
>
> Different enamel respond differently, so test on scrap first.
>

# 1634. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-13 15:30:29 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1624  Message: 1634

Another source of information would "OLD" ARRL handbooks. I believe that
is where I first read about doing the crinkle finish. I had built
something and
the 19" rack panel was either bare steel or aluminium. I have used that
spray
can wrinkle finish paint with good success. It seems like it required a
think
coat, but that was awhile back. Having worked in car and radio refinishing,
I always enjoy learning and trying different methods, especially when try to
restore an object. I wish I could afford a small machinist lath so I
could make
some of these small parts. Maybe some day in the future.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka

On 7/13/2011 7:25 AM, vk4wm wrote:
> G'day Joe
>
> I will be trying as many suggestions as I can, thank you for your's Joe I will most
certainly try it, I got the spray can of crackle paint today from the Auto parts shop, it
is a high temperature paint for use around engines, I dont know until I try how fine the
crackle finish will be, there are a few ideas on the web about how to crackle paint,
apparently Tung oil was added to paint too in the past but info is scant about just how the
process went.
>
> Interesting times ahead!
>
> 73 Wade VK4WM
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Joseph L Pontek<k8jp@...> wrote:
>> Hi, guys.

>>
>> Something I tried way back when was to use different thinners with
>> enamels. I used lacquer thinner once. I painted it on a panel and the
>> rapid evaporation caused the winkle effect. After 3 or 4 days, I baked
>> the panel and it became very hard. There is another thinner that is
>> used to speed up enamel "drying" and it is also used as the fuel for
>> Zippo cigarette lighters, naphtha. It needs to be accelerated with
>> heat, though. The wrinkle finish is caused by the rapid, but uneven
>> evaporation of the thinner.
>>
>> Different enamel respond differently, so test on scrap first.
>>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
---
57 Year Old Mom Looks 27!
Mom Reveals $5 Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3241/4e1dba223c9d83ac073st06duc

# 1635. Re: Vibroplex contacts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-15 21:00:26 UTC
From: nzeronv
Topic: 1597  Message: 1635

I have found that Ten-Tec rigs reproduce the switch bounce of the Vibroplex dit contacts too faithfully. Fortunately, a 1 uF capacitor across the bug terminals did the trick with my Omni VI. YMMV.

Jack - N0NV
SKCC 1662

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Richard Meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> I have found another solution for scratchy and "bouncy" dots when keying a very unforgiving solid state rig. I use the bug to key an MFJ keyer that has a "semiautomatic" function. The electronics in the keyer are very forgiving of bounces and scratches, but what comes out the other end is exactly what you told the bug to do - including all of your timing and "swing" peculiarities. The problem that I have found with a capacitor that you have access to only the "C" in an RC circuit; the inaccessible components vary with the rig that you are keying, and the effectiveness of this approach may also vary.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>

# 1636. RFTB tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-17 19:21:35 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1636  Message: 1636

It's the third Sunday of July already! Yoou know what that means ....RFTB is tonight!

RFTB is the ONLY monthly QRP Sprint officially endorsed by the Flying Pigs QRP Club International. This is a friendly lil' Sprint where all are welcome - no need to actually be a Piggie to join in on the fun !!! BUT we encourage all Piggies to hop into the trough and join us for some fun.

AND ..... K6JSS will be leaving the hands of our most capable Vermont friends before the Sprint begins - so we invite our Arkansas friends to join in the fray and hand out some K6JSS/5 QSOs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1637. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-18 15:12:51 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1637

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Thursday, July 21, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201107.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1638. FOBB Error

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-22 00:54:02 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1638  Message: 1638

To set the record straight, as there was an erroneous report out there that the Flight of the Bumblebees is THIS weekend - July 24th.

The Flight of the Bumblebees is ALWAYS the LAST Sunday in July. This year, that means July 31st which is next weekend - not this weekend.

If you'd like to make a practice run this Sunday to test out your stuff, that's all well and good, and maybe highly commendable. But the actual event is Sunday July 31st.

Thanks for your patience!

Larry W2LJ
Head Beekeeper

# 1639. Bug practice aid uploaded to the server

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-07-23 08:42:57 UTC
From: g3zcu
Topic: 1639  Message: 1639

I have just uploaded a simple program I wrote to help me with my bug sending. After decades of squeeze keying, I had to teach myself to pump the dah side of the lever for those characters that had two or more consecutive dahs. The program is very basic and not at all flashy (I am much better at producing Morse code than PC code), but it does what I says it does.

Bug.exe is an application that generates 5 x 10 grids for bug practice. The characters in each grid are a random selection of letters, numbers and common punctuation marks - but only the ones that contain two or more consecutive dahs; i.e. the ones that require you to pump the right hand side of the lever. As a longstanding squeeze key user but a newcomer to bug sending I found practising these characters was a great help. I hope you do too.

To use bug.exe, unzip it to a folder of your choice and simply double click on it. A simple console window will open up. If you enter Y in either upper or lower case a random grid will be generated, entering any other character will terminate the program.

73

Paul

# 1640. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-07 22:42:35 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1640

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our August sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Wednesday, August 10, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201108.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: We have a prize of WB8LZG's paddle handles and knobs thanks to another generous donation of the handsome hand-crafted items by Gregg. They go to the winner of a random drawing among all who participate in and submit a log for our sprint each month. Previous winners are not eligible. Take a look at the Prize page in the main section of the web site to see what they look like if you don't already know. We deeply appreciate Gregg's generosity.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Added Note: The NAQCC European Chapter Sprint will take place Wednesday, August 10, 2011 at 1800-2000 UTC. Full information on their website at: naqcc-eu.org/

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1641. Flash-Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-08 02:14:47 UTC
From: esasabase
Topic: 1641  Message: 1641

Just received a Bunnell flash-key No. 5-48. has any one seen set up. Please see photos.

# 1642. Re: [cw_bugs] Flash-Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-08 13:27:00 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1641  Message: 1642

GM, old chap.

Sorry, no name or call letters in your e-mail.

One thing I noticed from your photos is the weights. Those are
not the original weights, but what are known as stair gauges.
They made to fasten onto a framing square to lay out the cuts
for steps to cut out the wood. I believe they even say Craftsman
on yours. Neat key. Looks to be a fun restoration project.
And those step gauges do work nicely for weights. Those
even appear to be an old style.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka

On 8/7/2011 8:14 PM, esasabase wrote:
> Just received a Bunnell flash-key No. 5-48. has any one seen set up. Please see photos.
>

# 1643. Re: Flash-Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-08 13:58:38 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 1641  Message: 1643

Great old bug !
The weights look like old steering arm ball joints from a vehicle HI.
Perhaps the first step would be to replace them with proper bug weights.
73

□ □ □ □
John / G0RDO
http://www.morsemad.com

# 1644. Articulated foot/arm

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-30 21:14:25 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1609  Message: 1644

I have read about these, but have yet to see a picture of one. I
understand that
they were on mainly ones made in Georgia that had the thinner bases, but
have
read where they were on some of the smaller thick bases as well.

Anybody know where I might find a picture of one?

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

# 1645. Re: [cw_bugs] Articulated foot/arm

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-30 21:23:09 UTC
From: Andy Dickerson
Topic: 1609  Message: 1645

Hi Joe,

I haven't seen one, but it reminds me--

There will be a special "Norcross Day" on 8 October to commemorate the original Vibroplex factory location in Norcross, Georgia (a suburb northeast of Atlanta). I am not directly involved in that event because my speed isn't good enough (sending or receiving) to get on the air with my Vibroplex yet. But there will be a special-event station on the air, and the really special treat is that there will be an ORIGINAL Norcross bug on the air, courtesy of KT5X I believe.

The North Georgia QRP Club will be the primary sponsor of the event and will supply most of the ops. The details are still being worked out, but I know that the Norcross bug is now in hand!

Yahoo group here: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vibroplex_in_norcross/

73,
Andy KD4UKW

On Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 5:14 PM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I have read about these, but have yet to see a picture of one. I
> understand that
> they were on mainly ones made in Georgia that had the thinner bases, but
> have
> read where they were on some of the smaller thick bases as well.
>
> Anybody know where I might find a picture of one?
>
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280
> Dangriga
> Stann Creek District
> Belize
> (Hopkins Village)011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2k8jp@...
> FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
> SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
> LotW
> Skype: v31joepalookahttp://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>

>
>
>

# 1646. Re: [cw_bugs] Articulated foot/arm

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-30 21:32:56 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1609  Message: 1646

Thanks, Andy.

I had not heard about the event yet, but I will keep an eye out for announcements.
I just acquired a 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe, but I won't see it until I go up to the states
in late October or early November and bring it down here. I have three Originals
now and feeling much more comfortable with them. I still stumble a bit when I switch
from the keyer to the bugs, but that is what I am working towards is the ability to switch
smoothly between them.

Thanks for the heads up and will look forward to hearing from them. I did send an
e-mail to Fred, KT5X, but I think it was blocked by AOL.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 8/30/2011 3:23 PM, Andy Dickerson wrote:
>
>
> Hi Joe,
>
> I haven't seen one, but it reminds me--
>
> There will be a special "Norcross Day" on 8 October to commemorate the
> original Vibroplex factory location in Norcross, Georgia (a suburb
> northeast of Atlanta). I am not directly involved in that event
> because my speed isn't good enough (sending or receiving) to get on

> the air with my Vibroplex yet. But there will be a special-event
> station on the air, and the really special treat is that there will be
> an ORIGINAL Norcross bug on the air, courtesy of KT5X I believe.
>
> The North Georgia QRP Club will be the primary sponsor of the event
> and will supply most of the ops. The details are still being worked
> out, but I know that the Norcross bug is now in hand!
>
> Yahoo group here: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vibroplex_in_norcross/
>
> 73,
> Andy KD4UKW
>
>
>
>
> On Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 5:14 PM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...
> <mailto:k8jp@...>> wrote:
>
> I have read about these, but have yet to see a picture of one. I
> understand that
> they were on mainly ones made in Georgia that had the thinner
> bases, but have
> read where they were on some of the smaller thick bases as well.
>
> Anybody know where I might find a picture of one?
>
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280
> Dangriga
> Stann Creek District
> Belize
> (Hopkins Village)
> 011-501-503-7346 <tel:011-501-503-7346> Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> 903-424-4267 <tel:903-424-4267> (My cellular when in Texas)
> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
> k8jp@... <mailto:k8jp@...>
> FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
> SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
> LotW
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1647. Re: [cw_bugs] Articulated foot/arm

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-31 00:49:25 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1609  Message: 1647
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Yes, the Norcross bug of KT5X has arrived home, in Norcross, and is the hand of Dick, K2UFT.

Yes, vibroplex made a thin base with an articulated arm. While some think they were all made in Norcross, they were produced before Norcross, and very few bugs of any kind were produced in Norcross, so, who knows. Here is a photo of one.

73, Fred - KT5X

Thanks, Andy.

I had not heard about the event yet, but I will keep an eye out for announcements.
I just acquired a 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe, but I won't see it until I go up to the states in late October or early November and bring it down here. I have three Originals now and feeling much more comfortable with them. I still stumble a bit when I switch from the keyer to the bugs, but that is what I am working towards is the ability to switch smoothly between them.

Thanks for the heads up and will look forward to hearing from them. I did send an e-mail to Fred, KT5X, but I think it was blocked by AOL.

# 1648. Re: [cw_bugs] Articulated foot/arm 'nother photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-31 00:58:12 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1648  Message: 1648
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

And here is another thin base. This one, I restored the base on it as it had been repainted (poorly)

73, Fred - kt5x

# 1649. Re: [cw_bugs] Articulated foot/arm 'nother photo

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-08-31 01:49:25 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1648  Message: 1649
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Really neat, Fred.

MFO sent me a couple of pictures scanned from one of his key books,
but these really show the details. Having read about these legs and
not having seen any, it made me wonder as I was looking at a Junior
with what appeared to be an extra hole. I thought it might be for the leg,
but it was mid-ship on the port side.

This all started with buying W4PAL's book to deal with metal problems.
The darn book has me now wanting an older key to restore! I got close
on the Junior, but E-Bay screwed me with making me sign back in while
I was signed be already!

I will have to get hold of Dick, UFT, and see when their special event will
be held.

.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 8/30/2011 6:58 PM, Fred Maas wrote:
>
>
> And here is another thin base. This one, I restored the base on it as
> it had been repainted (poorly)
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>
>

# 1650. Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 02:36:30 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1650  Message: 1650

Lately I have been looking at the vibroplexes for sale on ebay and I have noticed a large number of them are missing the vibroplex name plates.
Most of these plates are held on with pins that are unlikely to fall out by themselves.
Does anyone have an idea what happens to these things? Are older plates put on newer bugs to increase their collectable value?
Bill,WV1N

# 1651. Re: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 02:50:13 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1650  Message: 1651

There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one, but seldom that.
Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a key case. Some
are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not what they are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not have a label,
but those are few.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280
Dangriga
Stann Creek District
Belize
(Hopkins Village)
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
k8jp@...
FOC 1743, CWops 876, A1OP
SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 9/6/2011 8:36 PM, William wrote:
> Lately I have been looking at the vibroplexes for sale on ebay and I have noticed a large number of them are missing the vibroplex name plates.
> Most of these plates are held on with pins that are unlikely to fall out by themselves. Does anyone have an idea what happens to these things? Are older plates put on newer bugs to increase their collectable value?
> Bill,WV1N
>
>

# 1652. Re: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 03:37:10 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1650  Message: 1652

Not all Vibroplexes used rivets to hold the nameplate. Some were held in place by adhesive.
Theory has it that some (?) "plateless" bugs were what was known as "lunchbox keys". Since nameplates bore serial numbers, they were easily accounted for, whereas keys (more likely parts) were more difficult to keep track of.
161, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 9/6/2011 10:51:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time, k8jp@... writes:

There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one, but seldom that.
Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a key case. Some
are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not what they are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not have a label,
but those are few.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek

# 1653. Re: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 13:02:01 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1650  Message: 1653

Not wure what you are referring to. I have not seen a large number of Vibroplex keys without plates. Yes, some of the recent keys had stick-on nameplates, but doubt if that is what you mean. No, I haven't seen any significant number of new bugs with old plates, and further, doing that would be absolutely obvious to any collector, and would not enhance value. In fact, old keys unless a rare model aren't valuable anyway.

Most Vibroplex keys missing plates aren't Vibroplex keys. One frequent candidate is the Lionel J-36 from WW II. 37,000 of these were made, they are extremely common, there is almost always several for sale at any given time, and I have no idea why anyone would pay more than a few dollars for one. They never had a Vibroplex style plate. They had a celluloid piece of black plastic the UV'd and shrivelled up, held on by five pins, easily recognizable on a Lightning-like bug.

During the early days there were clones, we're talking nineteen-teens here. Such clones were illegal and Vibroplex got Western union to outlaw them on the line, hence the plates were removed and thrown away. Vibroplex made users of them buy a JE Albright name plate before they could be used on the line.

Later after the patents ran out, late twenties, Speed-X produced similar keys, which were not Vibroplex, without labels.

nearly all keys I see without labels fall into one of the above catagories, though recently there were two Shwaplex keys without lables, those are actually rare, interesting to some collectors, though I don't know why since they are not much different.

Perhaps, hope, something here might have been helpful?

73, Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: William
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2011 8:36 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Lately I have been looking at the vibroplexes for sale on ebay and I have noticed a large number of them are missing the vibroplex name plates.
Most of these plates are held on with pins that are unlikely to fall out by themselves.
Does anyone have an idea what happens to these things? Are older plates put on newer bugs to increase their collectable value?
Bill,WV1N

# 1654. Re: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 13:29:23 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1650  Message: 1654

Not sure what keys you are referring to.

Not all Vibroplexes used rivets to hold the nameplate. Some were held in place by adhesive. Theory has it that some (?) "plateless" bugs were what was known as "lunchbox keys". Since nameplates bore serial numbers, they were easily accounted for, whereas keys (more likely parts) were more difficult to keep track of.
161, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 9/6/2011 10:51:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time, k8jp@... writes:
There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one, but seldom that. Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a key case. Some are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not what they are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not have a label, but those are few.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek

# 1655. Re: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 13:58:58 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1650  Message: 1655

I purchased a Vibroplex on E Bay several years ago.. Serial # *62110* is the Plate that is on it. The Serial # on the Box..is *62724* ? The Seller indicated that he had contacted Vibroplex regarding this.. and they issued another plate with the matching Serial # to the Box ! So.. I have one 'Vibroplex Iambic..that came with two different plates ! Sounds a little suspicious to me..I am thinking there is either 'one out there somewhere missing a plate'..or it was used for Parts ! I just recently purchased a second 'Identical Iambic' to *62724 *..also a 'Deluxe Model'.. Serial # *42724*.. 'What are the Odds of That' !!
OK.. Iambics are 'not Bugs'.. but I found them easier to Master ! 73
Jerry
VE6CPP VE6Jee/p

On 9/6/2011 9:37 PM, k4oso@... wrote:
>
> Not all Vibroplexes used rivets to hold the nameplate. Some were held
> in place by adhesive.
> Theory has it that some (?) "plateless" bugs were what was known as
> "lunchbox keys". Since nameplates bore serial numbers, they were
> easily accounted for, whereas keys (more likely parts) were more
> difficult to keep track of.
> 161, Milt k4oso
> In a message dated 9/6/2011 10:51:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
> k8jp@... writes:
>
> There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one,
> but seldom that.
> Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a
> key case. Some
> are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not
> what they
> are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not
> have a label,
> but those are few.
>
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
>
>

# 1656. Re: Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 18:04:42 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1650  Message: 1656

I think the only conclusion one could draw is there is another Iambic out there with the serial number 62724...in a box labeled 62110!!
Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Jerry <jer.sieg@...> wrote:
>
> I purchased a Vibroplex on E Bay several years ago.. Serial # *62110* is
> the Plate that is on it. The Serial # on the Box..is *62724* ? The
> Seller indicated that he had contacted Vibroplex regarding this.. and
> they issued another plate with the matching Serial # to the Box ! So.. I
> have one 'Vibroplex Iambic..that came with two different plates ! Sounds
> a little suspicious to me..I am thinking there is either 'one out there
> somewhere missing a plate'..or it was used for Parts ! I just recently
> purchased a second 'Identical Iambic' to *62724 *..also a 'Deluxe
> Model'.. Serial # *42724*.. 'What are the Odds of That' !!
> OK.. Iambics are 'not Bugs'.. but I found them easier to Master ! 73
> Jerry
> VE6CPP VE6Jee/p
>
>
> On 9/6/2011 9:37 PM, k4oso@... wrote:
> >
> > Not all Vibroplexes used rivets to hold the nameplate. Some were held
> > in place by adhesive.
> > Theory has it that some (?) "plateless" bugs were what was known as
> > "lunchbox keys". Since nameplates bore serial numbers, they were
> > easily accounted for, whereas keys (more likely parts) were more
> > difficult to keep track of.
> > 161, Milt k4oso
> > In a message dated 9/6/2011 10:51:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
> > k8jp@... writes:
> >
> > There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one,
> > but seldom that.
> > Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a
> > key case. Some
> > are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not
> > what they
> > are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not
> > have a label,
> > but those are few.
> >
> > 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> >
> >

>

# 1657. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 18:38:50 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1650  Message: 1657

OK.. That makes Sense too ! Should I put out an 'Amber Alert' ..
'Missing.. Iambic Key Box with Serial # 62724 ! ;o)
(But I do have the Plate Serial # 62724 too !) Just Glued On ones then.. !
I started considering 'Collecting Old Vibroplex Keys'.. but, Oh so Many
of them !
They are surely the 'Swiss Watches' of Keys I must admit ! I also have
'All of Dave, K4TWJ's Books on collecting Keys.. I was shocked when I
saw just 'How Many were manufactured over the years !
Any other books out there for the 'Novice Key Collector' ?

On 9/7/2011 12:04 PM, k4oso wrote:
>
> I think the only conclusion one could draw is there is another Iambic
> out there with the serial number 62724...in a box labeled 62110!!
> Milt
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs%40yahoogroups.com>,
> Jerry <jer.sieg@...> wrote:
> >
> > I purchased a Vibroplex on E Bay several years ago.. Serial #
> *62110* is
> > the Plate that is on it. The Serial # on the Box..is *62724* ? The
> > Seller indicated that he had contacted Vibroplex regarding this.. and
> > they issued another plate with the matching Serial # to the Box !
> So.. I
> > have one 'Vibroplex Iambic..that came with two different plates !
> Sounds
> > a little suspicious to me..I am thinking there is either 'one out there
> > somewhere missing a plate'..or it was used for Parts ! I just recently
> > purchased a second 'Identical Iambic' to *62724 *..also a 'Deluxe
> > Model'.. Serial # *42724*.. 'What are the Odds of That' !!
> > OK.. Iambics are 'not Bugs'.. but I found them easier to Master ! 73
> > Jerry
> > VE6CPP VE6Jee/p
> >
> >
> > On 9/6/2011 9:37 PM, k4oso@... wrote:
> > >
> > > Not all Vibroplexes used rivets to hold the nameplate. Some were held
> > > in place by adhesive.
> > > Theory has it that some (?) "plateless" bugs were what was known as
> > > "lunchbox keys". Since nameplates bore serial numbers, they were
> > > easily accounted for, whereas keys (more likely parts) were more
> > > difficult to keep track of.
> > > 161, Milt k4oso

> > > In a message dated 9/6/2011 10:51:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
> > > k8jp@... writes:
> > >
> > > There are various demises for those plates and you mentioned one,
> > > but seldom that.
> > > Some would be put on another item for decorative purposes, like a
> > > key case. Some
> > > are destroyed when someone tries to do a refurbish and know not
> > > what they
> > > are doing (most common cause of loss) and some actually did not
> > > have a label,
> > > but those are few.
> > >
> > > 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> > >
> > >
> >
>
>

# 1658. Re: Missing name plates

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-07 18:47:39 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1650  Message: 1658

Well, right now on ebay there is a 1912 orginal, an original deluxe, an orginal standard and a #4 blue racer all without name plates. None of them were Lightnings or J36's.
Your comments about clones is interesting. The 1912 bug looks good and has a serial number stamped on the damper. But who knows, maybe it's a clinker.

Bill,WV1N

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Not wure what you are referring to. I have not seen a large number of Vibroplex keys without plates. Yes, some of the recent keys had stick-on nameplates, but doubt if that is what you mean. No, I haven't seen any significant number of new bugs with old plates, and further, doing that would be absolutely obvious to any collector, and would not enhance value. In fact, old keys unless a rare model aren't valuable anyway.
>
> Most Vibroplex keys missing plates aren't Vibroplex keys. One frequent candidate is the Lionel J-36 from WW II. 37,000 of these were made, they are extremely common, there is almost always several for sale at any given time, and I have no idea why anyone would pay more than a few dollars for one. They never had a Vibroplex style plate. They had a celluloid piece of black plastic the UV'd and shrivelled up, held on by five pins, easily recognizable on a Lightning-like bug.
>
> During the early days there were clones, we're talking nineteen-teens here. Such clones were illegal and Vibroplex got Western union to outlaw them on the line, hence the plates were removed and thrown away. Vibroplex made users of them buy a JE Albright name plate before they could be used on the line.
>
> Later after the patents ran out, late twenties, Speed-X produced similar keys, which were not Vibroplex, without labels.
>
> nearly all keys I see without labels fall into one of the above catagories, though recently there were two Shwaplex keys without lables, those are actually rare, interesting to some collectors, though I don't know why since they are not much different.
>
> Perhaps, hope, something here might have been helpful?
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: William
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2011 8:36 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Missing name plates
>

>
>
> Lately I have been looking at the vibroplexes for sale on ebay and I have noticed a large number of them are missing the vibroplex name plates.
> Most of these plates are held on with pins that are unlikely to fall out by themselves. Does anyone have an idea what happens to these things? Are older plates put on newer bugs to increase their collectable value?
> Bill,WV1N
>

# 1659. Re: Simplex Auto

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-08 12:34:55 UTC
From: morsemad
Topic: 1624  Message: 1659

Hello Wade ...
I just measured the contact spring on my Simplex Auto and it is 1 & 3/4" long. Not 2".
Also it is 1/8" wide ..... Perhaps just an adjustment of the movable
dot contact on the pendulum would do the trick ?

# 1661. RFTB Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-17 19:59:10 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 959  Message: 1661

Time flies when you're having fun!

Tomorrow is already the third Sunday of Spetember - can you believe it? Well, believe it or not, it's time for RFTB, that ultimate, user friendly, fun CW QRP Sprint, which is brought to you every month courtesy of the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club International.

AND ..... K6JSS will be leaving the hands of our most capable Oregon friends before the Sprint begins - so we invite our California State friends to join in the fray and hand out some K6JSS QSOs.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1662. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-09-18 19:52:37 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1662

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our September sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Thursday, September 22, 0030-0230z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201109.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1663. Les Logan spings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 02:22:24 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1663  Message: 1663

I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up the dot return sping sprung off the table and was never seen again. I tried replacing it with a pen spring but it was too tight. I then noticed that there was a small spring around the lower pole of the trunion. For the life of me I could not see its purpose it that location. I transferred it to the dot spring location and it seems to work well.
Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary for some some function?
Please check out your Speed X and let me know if you have a lower trunion spring.

Bill/wv1n

# 1664. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 04:01:23 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1663  Message: 1664

For replacement springs, go to www.smallparts.com

They have what you need.

Better clean the house those exact springs are difficult to find :-)

David N1EA

On Sat, Oct 8, 2011 at 10:22 PM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:

> I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up the dot
> return sping sprung off the table and was never seen again. I tried
> replacing it with a pen spring but it was too tight. I then noticed that
> there was a small spring around the lower pole of the trunion. For the life
> of me I could not see its purpose it that location. I transferred it to the
> dot spring location and it seems to work well.
> Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary for some
> some function? Please check out your Speed X and let me know if you have a
> lower trunion spring.
>
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1665. RE: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 12:46:15 UTC
From: William Schmidt
Topic: 1663  Message: 1665

David,

Thanks for the resource information. Knowing which of the thousands of springs they offer is a problem. Is there any technical data resource available for speed x keys? Machine drawings or part specs?

The carpet in my shack eats SMDs as well as springs. I usually find them 2 months later when I walk around barefoot.
If I cleaned my shack I would not be able to find anything. It's a process I call cognitive entropy.

Bill/wv1n

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: n1ea@...
Date: Sun, 9 Oct 2011 00:01:23 -0400
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

For replacement springs, go to www.smallparts.com

They have what you need.

Better clean the house those exact springs are difficult to find :-)

David N1EA

On Sat, Oct 8, 2011 at 10:22 PM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:

I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up the dot return sping sprung off the table and was never seen again. I tried replacing it with a pen spring but it was too tight. I then noticed that there was a small spring around the lower pole of the trunion. For the life of me I could not see its purpose it that location. I transferred it to the dot spring location and it seems to work well.

Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary for some some function? Please check out your Speed X and let me know if you have a lower trunion spring.

Bill/wv1n

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/

Individual Email | Traditional

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/join

(Yahoo! ID required)

cw_bugs-digest@yahoogroups.com

cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com

cw_bugs-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

http://docs.yahoo.com/info/terms/

# 1666. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 13:57:36 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1663  Message: 1666

I doubt the spring is AL or Stainless.. just 'wave a magnet around over the carpet'.. You will find it..(along with all those small screws you dropped over the years as well ! ;o)
Jerry/VE6CPP

On 10/9/2011 6:46 AM, William Schmidt wrote:
>
> David,
>
> Thanks for the resource information. Knowing which of the thousands
> of springs they offer is a problem. Is there any technical data
> resource available for speed x keys? Machine drawings or part specs?
>
> The carpet in my shack eats SMDs as well as springs. I usually find
> them 2 months later when I walk around barefoot.
> If I cleaned my shack I would not be able to find anything. It's a
> process I call cognitive entropy.
>
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
> ---
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: n1ea@...
> Date: Sun, 9 Oct 2011 00:01:23 -0400
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings
>
> For replacement springs, go to www.smallparts.com
> <http://www.smallparts.com>
>
> They have what you need.
>
> Better clean the house those exact springs are difficult to find :-)
>
> David N1EA
>
>
> On Sat, Oct 8, 2011 at 10:22 PM, William <fretjock@...
> <mailto:fretjock@...>> wrote:
>
> I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up
> the dot return sping sprung off the table and was never seen
> again. I tried replacing it with a pen spring but it was too
> tight. I then noticed that there was a small spring around the
> lower pole of the trunion. For the life of me I could not see its

> purpose it that location. I transferred it to the dot spring
> location and it seems to work well.
> Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary for
> some some function? Please check out your Speed X and let me know
> if you have a lower trunion spring.
>
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1667. Springs "Lost" in the carpet

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 14:13:51 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1663  Message: 1667

Bill-

I lost a J-38 terminal pin in the carpet- I could guess about where it might be- I was able to retrieve it by using a "refrigerator magnet"- That might work for your lost spring?

73 Carl, WZ4CW, SKCC 918, FISTS 13491

----- Original Message -----
From: "William Schmidt" <fretjock@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 9, 2011 8:46:15 AM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

David,

Thanks for the resource information. Knowing which of the thousands of springs they offer is a problem. Is there any technical data resource available for speed x keys? Machine drawings or part specs?

The carpet in my shack eats SMDs as well as springs. I usually find them 2 months later when I walk around barefoot.
If I cleaned my shack I would not be able to find anything. It's a process I call cognitive entropy.

Bill/wv1n

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: n1ea@...
Date: Sun, 9 Oct 2011 00:01:23 -0400
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

For replacement springs, go to www.smallparts.com

They have what you need.

Better clean the house those exact springs are difficult to find :-)

David N1EA

On Sat, Oct 8, 2011 at 10:22 PM, William < fretjock@... > wrote:

I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up the dot return sping sprung off the table and was never seen again. I tried replacing it with a pen spring but it was too tight. I then noticed that there was a small spring around the lower pole of the trunion. For the life of me I could not see its purpose it that location. I transferred it to the dot spring location and it seems to work well.
Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary for some some function?

Please check out your Speed X and let me know if you have a lower trunion spring.

Bill/wv1n

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1668. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 14:50:15 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1663  Message: 1668

I keep an old speaker magnets for the 'dropped parts' cure.
I put it in a zipped plastic bag and after the chore is
done, I remove the magnet from the bag and the
parts, and trash, drop into a pan and magnet is still clean.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/9/2011 7:57 AM, Jerry wrote:
>
>
> I doubt the spring is AL or Stainless.. just 'wave a magnet around
> over the carpet'.. You will find it..(along with all those small
> screws you dropped over the years as well ! ;o)
> Jerry/VE6CPP
>
> On 10/9/2011 6:46 AM, William Schmidt wrote:
>>
>> David,
>>
>> Thanks for the resource information. Knowing which of the thousands
>> of springs they offer is a problem. Is there any technical data
>> resource available for speed x keys? Machine drawings or part specs?
>>
>> The carpet in my shack eats SMDs as well as springs. I usually find
>> them 2 months later when I walk around barefoot.
>> If I cleaned my shack I would not be able to find anything. It's a
>> process I call cognitive entropy.
>>
>> Bill/wv1n
>>
>>
>> ---
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> From: n1ea@...
>> Date: Sun, 9 Oct 2011 00:01:23 -0400

>> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan spings
>>
>> For replacement springs, go to www.smallparts.com
>> <http://www.smallparts.com>
>>
>> They have what you need.
>>
>> Better clean the house those exact springs are difficult to find :-)
>>
>> David N1EA
>>
>>
>> On Sat, Oct 8, 2011 at 10:22 PM, William <fretjock@...
>> <mailto:fretjock@...>> wrote:
>>
>> I recently picked up a Les Logan 515. While I was cleaning it up
>> the dot return sping sprung off the table and was never seen
>> again. I tried replacing it with a pen spring but it was too
>> tight. I then noticed that there was a small spring around the
>> lower pole of the trunion. For the life of me I could not see
>> its purpose it that location. I transferred it to the dot spring
>> location and it seems to work well.
>> Is the spring on the trunion pole a "spare" or is it necessary
>> for some some function? Please check out your Speed X and let me
>> know if you have a lower trunion spring.
>>
>> Bill/wv1n
>>
>>
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>> cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com
>> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 1669. Re: [cw_bugs] Springs "Lost" in the carpet

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 14:57:12 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1663  Message: 1669

That reminds me, I have a six pound alnico magnet taken from a bad magnetron from a ship 20 kW peak 3 cm radar transceiver. I often used the magnets to hold down papers in the radio room after I replaced maggies.

I'm sure an investment in such a magnet would be well worth it considering the frequent loss of SMD parts and a unique spring.

Strong magnets are available - such as this one - and I found a place that sells them much more inexpensively than most $5 vs. $30.

http://www.indigo.com/magnets/gphmgnts/Nd-rod-magnets.html?from=GoogleBase

The 44202-25 Rod magnet, D7.5 x 25mm, Nd rare earth, N42 sells in lots of 1-9 for only $ 4.30 - consider that a steal and buy two or three at that price since the competition sells them for $30.00 each.

Also two are more fun to play with - and children and grandchildren love them. I once begged my grandmother for a magnet for years and she got me a nice red horseshoe magnet that plumbers use - I loved it until I lost it.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>
SOWP <http://www.sowp.org/>, VWOA <http://www.vwoa.org/>,
OOTC<http://www.ootc.us/>,
FISTS <http://www.fists.co.uk/>, CW-Ops <http://www.cwops.org/>,
CFO<http://groups.google.com/group/Chicken-Fat-Operators-Club?hl=en>,
A1-OP <http://www.arrl.org/a-1-op>, ex-FOC 1271 ARRL-LM<http://www.arrl.org/>
Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
Radio-Officers Google
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Marine
Morse Historic Recordings Page <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>

# 1670. Re: [cw_bugs] Springs "Lost" in the carpet

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 15:20:44 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 1663  Message: 1670

Greetings !

Why pay for magnets ? It is child's play to dismantle a scrapped microwave-oven & get the magnet from it, They are immensely useful, but remember to use it in a stout plastic bag, lest it pick up iron filings or other sharp shreds.

I acquired a Mac key, and dropped the spring pronto - I think these springs have, in fact, a mind of their own. I'd reached for my magnet almost before the spring hit the floor...

On quite a different tack, whenever I throw away an old TV or monitor with a CRT, I retrieve the scanning-yoke ferrite. It's usually in two halves, held together with spring-clips. They make excellent RFI/EMC stoppers on TV, VCR & PSU leads. Bulky ? yes; pretty ? no; but do they work ? Y E S !`

Beer-cans soldered together make FB 40-metre verticals. In a month, I could build a 4-square array, if I had the backyard...

Sorry to introduce "Scrap-yard Corner" into this discussion. Now, if I could find a use for CDs from magazines...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 1671. Les Logan Springs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 15:25:17 UTC
From: Philip Cala-Lazar
Topic: 1671  Message: 1671

Bill,

I checked my E.F. Johnson (cum Les Logan) Speed-X 114-510 semi-automatic key and did not find a spring in the location you mentioned. Perhaps a prior owner stored a spare spring there for just such an eventuality.

73,

Philip, K9PL

A-1 Op - FISTS #6753 - SKCC #258T - NAQCC #2227 - CWops #308 - CTC #2206 - JA A-1 #509

# 1672. Re: [cw_bugs] Springs "Lost" in the carpet

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-09 15:35:30 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1663  Message: 1672

A short while ago, KB4QQJ, Randy, spoke of an ingenious way to retrieve small parts from the carpet. He simply places an old pantyhose over the vacuum cleaner nozzle and goes at it. The part will be picked up, but caught by the pantyhose. Easy!!@
73, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 10/9/2011 10:14:18 AM Eastern Daylight Time, wz4cw@... writes:

Bill-
I lost a J-38 terminal pin in the carpet- I could guess about where it might be- I was able to retrieve it by using a "refrigerator magnet"- That might work for your lost spring?
73 Carl, WZ4CW, SKCC 918, FISTS 13491

# 1673. Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 03:33:10 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1673  Message: 1673

Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated. With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
Any thoughts or suggestions?

Bill wv1n

PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.

# 1674. Re: [cw_bugs] Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 06:15:49 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1673  Message: 1674

GE, Bill.

I am going to be doing the same with a 1912 Vibroplex. I get to see it first hand next Tuesday when I get to my daughter's up in Texas (my US address for K8JP.) I acquired one of those DIY copper & nickel plating kits from Caswell. They do work, but the wand type takes a lot of rubbing. You could do the damper and front support (main frame?) fairly well or even better with the DIY kit. For the base, though, I would recommend cleaning it well and taking it to a plating shop. You can DIY, though, as well and they do come out nice. I could take all the parts into a plating shop as well, but it is neat to do your own small parts. I may get the materials for the immersion nickel plating this trip to the US. My base will be done in the old style Japanning of the base myself with asphaltum. I am going to do a full restoration of mine as properly described by Bill, W4PAL, in his book "How to Restore Telegraph Keys." In fact, I will be bring back a Watchmaker's lath and other tools for the project and other tasks I have down here in my tool rental and tool repair shop.

One thing with small parts done by plating shops is their plating is too heavy sometimes. It is OK with the likes of a base, though.

Congratulations on the 1919 Blue Racer acquisition, Bill. E Bay screwed me when bidding on a 1928 Vibroplex Junior I wanted for a restoration project. I did acquire a 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe later for a nice price. I may have to have that base re-chromed, but I will see it first hand when I get to Texas as well.

I am making carriers like the old style Vibroplex carriers, but using nicer wood instead of plywood and leatherette. I have some almost done using teak now, but think I will refrain from using teak or mahogany in the future as those woods are rough on my cutting and planing tools because of the silica in them. I have some other nice looking woods in mind for the next production run for both standard and Blue Racer sizes.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW

Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/30/2011 9:33 PM, William wrote:
> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
> Any thoughts or suggestions?
>
> Bill wv1n
>
> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

# 1675. Re: [cw_bugs] Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 06:18:38 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1673  Message: 1675

Oh. I forgot, Bill. I would do the copper, then nickel plating
as it gives you deeper looking shine, both with DIY or from a shop.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/30/2011 9:33 PM, William wrote:
> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
> Any thoughts or suggestions?
>
> Bill wv1n
>
> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

# 1676. Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 12:11:11 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1673  Message: 1676

Hello Bill,
I had a situation similar to yours about 4 years ago. I bought a Blue Racer Deluxe on Ebay. However, mine was in slightly better condition because a few of the flakes were still hanging on for dear life. I disassembled mine and went to the local plater here in Richmond. He stripped and replated the base, damper and mainframe for $30. Easy..just dropped it off and picked it up 10 days later. Now, its a pretty face again.
I'm glad I didn't screw around with DIY for the price I paid.
Good luck,
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William" <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
> Any thoughts or suggestions?
>
> Bill wv1n
>
> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>

# 1677. Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 12:14:05 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1673  Message: 1677

By the way Bill,
I had mine chromed which, I understand, is one less plating step.
Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William" <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
> Any thoughts or suggestions?
>
> Bill wv1n
>
> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>

# 1678. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 13:43:01 UTC
From: William Schmidt
Topic: 1673  Message: 1678

Milt,
Actually chrome plating requires a nickel base. So chrome is one step more.
So I think I'll use a professional for the base and the DIY kit for the small bits.
Bill wv1n

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: k4oso@aol.com
Date: Mon, 31 Oct 2011 12:14:05 +0000
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

By the way Bill,

I had mine chromed which, I understand, is one less plating step.

Milt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William" <fretjock@...> wrote:

>

> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.

> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.

> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?

> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?

> Any thoughts or suggestions?

>

> Bill wv1n

>

> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.

>

# 1679. Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 14:21:52 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1673  Message: 1679

Ha ha....What I meant was nickel requires one less step...copper, nickel, chrome :-)
Milt
PS: The important part of the message was about the local plater.

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, William Schmidt <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
>
> Milt,
> Actually chrome plating requires a nickel base. So chrome is one step more.
> So I think I'll use a professional for the base and the DIY kit for the small bits.
> Bill wv1n
>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: k4oso@...
> Date: Mon, 31 Oct 2011 12:14:05 +0000
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> By the way Bill,

>
> I had mine chromed which, I understand, is one less plating step.
>
> Milt
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William" <fretjock@> wrote:
>
> >
>
> > Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
>
> > With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
>
> > I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
>
> > Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
>
> > Any thoughts or suggestions?
>
> >
>
> > Bill wv1n
>
> >
>
> > PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>
> >
>

# 1680. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 14:24:38 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1673  Message: 1680

In my opinion, it does'nt make a lot of sense to DIY the damper and mainframe if the plater will do them all for only about $5 more than doing the base alone (thats what my guy quoted me before I decided to let him do it all). The kit has to cost way more than that. Unless you just want to say you did it.
Milt

In a message dated 10/31/2011 9:43:05 AM Eastern Daylight Time, fretjock@... writes:

Milt,
Actually chrome plating requires a nickel base. So chrome is one step more.
So I think I'll use a professional for the base and the DIY kit for the small bits.
Bill wv1n

# 1681. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 14:36:32 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1673  Message: 1681

Chrome requires two steps, Milt.
Typically copper, then the chromium.
Nickel can be done in one step, but copper first gives
polished nickel a deeper shine, supposedly.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/31/2011 6:14 AM, k4oso wrote:
> By the way Bill,
> I had mine chromed which, I understand, is one less plating step.
> Milt
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William"<fretjock@...> wrote:
>> Recently I picked up an old (1919) blue racer in serious need of some TLC. It was so rusty that I needed to lift up the name plate to discover that the base used to be nickel plated.
>> With everything dismantled I was able to remove the rust from the base and now it is down to the base iron.
>> I would like to replate the base but I'm not sure how to proceed. Has anyone every used a home DIY plating kit? Do professional platers do small pieces?
>> Or should I just repaint it black or cobalt blue?
>> Any thoughts or suggestions?
>>
>> Bill wv1n
>>
>> PS: I'll also need to replate the damper and front support.
>>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>

>
>
>
---
60-Year-Old Mom Looks 27
Mom Reveals Free Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3241/4eaeb2752d93f8c331st05vuc

# 1682. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 14:47:31 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1673  Message: 1682

I'll let you be the expert on the process, Joe. My Racer is all done and looking good. ha ha. It was not expensive and did not expose me to hazardous chemicals. Thats what I call a cool process.
161, Milt
In a message dated 10/31/2011 10:37:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time, k8jp@... writes:

Chrome requires two steps, Milt.
Typically copper, then the chromium.
Nickel can be done in one step, but copper first gives polished nickel a deeper shine, supposedly.

# 1683. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 15:13:26 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1673  Message: 1683

When I bought my 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe, it was commented that there is
minor pitting on the base, so I may have my base done. In '55 they did
chrome,
but not as good as today. For chrome, I recommend going to the shop for
that.
I only do the nickel at home as it is not hazardous. Also, my 1912
upper parts
were originally done in nickel and I am doing a restoration, hence the
nickel
plating and the base will be done in the old Japanning way with asphaltum,
a lengthy, but well worth it process, I believe.

I will see my 'new' keys tomorrow night when I get to my home in Texas.
I am excited about that. I will be getting my watchmakers lath as well.
If the Blue Racer base needs to be re-chromed, I may try to have it done
before I return home to Belize in three weeks.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/31/2011 8:47 AM, k4oso@... wrote:
>
>
> I'll let you be the expert on the process, Joe. My Racer is all done
> and looking good. ha ha. It was not expensive and did not expose me
> to hazardous chemicals. Thats what I call a cool process.
> 161, Milt
> In a message dated 10/31/2011 10:37:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
> k8jp@... writes:
>
> Chrome requires two steps, Milt.
> Typically copper, then the chromium.
> Nickel can be done in one step, but copper first gives
> polished nickel a deeper shine, supposedly.
>
>
>

>
---
60-Year-Old Mom Looks 27
Mom Reveals Free Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!
http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3241/4eaebb1b1967ef8e96fst05vuc

# 1684. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-10-31 22:22:10 UTC
From: William Schmidt
Topic: 1673  Message: 1684

Joe,
Where do you get asphaltum? Does the final result look different
Than powder coat or enamel?
Bill / wv1n

Velo, ergo sum.

On Oct 31, 2011, at 11:13 AM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:

> When I bought my 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe, it was commented that there is
> minor pitting on the base, so I may have my base done. In '55 they did chrome,
> but not as good as today. For chrome, I recommend going to the shop for that.
> I only do the nickel at home as it is not hazardous. Also, my 1912 upper parts
> were originally done in nickel and I am doing a restoration, hence the nickel
> plating and the base will be done in the old Japanning way with asphaltum,
> a lengthy, but well worth it process, I believe.
>
> I will see my 'new' keys tomorrow night when I get to my home in Texas.
> I am excited about that. I will be getting my watchmakers lath as well.
> If the Blue Racer base needs to be re-chromed, I may try to have it done
> before I return home to Belize in three weeks.
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
> FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
> LotW
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>
> On 10/31/2011 8:47 AM, k4oso@... wrote:
>>
>> I'll let you be the expert on the process, Joe. My Racer is all done and looking good.
ha ha. It was not expensive and did not expose me to hazardous chemicals. Thats what I call
a cool process.
>> 161, Milt
>> In a message dated 10/31/2011 10:37:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time, k8jp@... writes:
>> Chrome requires two steps, Milt.
>> Typically copper, then the chromium.
>> Nickel can be done in one step, but copper first gives
>> polished nickel a deeper shine, supposedly.
>>
>

```
>
> ____________________________________________________________
> 60-Year-Old Mom Looks 27
> Mom Reveals Free Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!
> ConsumerLifestyles.org
>
```

# 1685. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Nickel Plating an old bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-01 03:59:54 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1673 Message: 1685

Hi, Bill.

Sorry to take so long to reply. I had to finish the November News Sheet for the FOC
and now I am packing for the trip to Texas tomorrow.

I found asphaltum on E-Bay and just bid on it. You can find it liquid form as varnish.
I am going to try and do it the traditional way. I have had some guys tell me the
powder coating are good, but I cannot say myself. The enamels can be good if
the surface is properly prepared and it is baked as well. I used to go body work
back in the 50s and 60s, so I remember the hard work involved in surface preparation
before painting. Asphaltum is, basically, a black varnish. Proper formulas abound,
but Bill, W4PAL, recommends 2 parts boiled linseed oil, 5 parts turpentine, 3 parts
asphaltum powder and optional 3 parts rosin. The rosin appears to sometimes
gives a less smoother finish then without it. I will go without it myself this time.
Bill says it takes a minimum of 5 coats for a good finish. After these, you will have
hard plastic like coating. Do a Google search for it. Bill's book lists a source,
but they are out of business. It is used for art work and printing as well. I think
Model-T Fords were painted with it. It rarely wears off, but is chipped away.

If you want what I call the bible of key restoration, get the "HOW TO RESTORE
TELEGRAPH KEYS" by W. R. Smith. I just got mine out of my suit case as it
is book I constantly read and reread.

http://www.wrsmithtelegraphkeys.com
or
_http://w1tp.com/mwr.htm
_

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize

011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 10/31/2011 4:22 PM, William Schmidt wrote:
>
>
> Joe,
> Where do you get asphaltum? Does the final result look different
> Than powder coat or enamel?
> Bill / wv1n
>
> Velo, ergo sum.
>
> On Oct 31, 2011, at 11:13 AM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...
> <mailto:k8jp@...>> wrote:
>
>> When I bought my 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe, it was commented that there is
>> minor pitting on the base, so I may have my base done. In '55 they
>> did chrome,
>> but not as good as today. For chrome, I recommend going to the shop
>> for that.
>> I only do the nickel at home as it is not hazardous. Also, my 1912
>> upper parts
>> were originally done in nickel and I am doing a restoration, hence
>> the nickel
>> plating and the base will be done in the old Japanning way with
>> asphaltum,
>> a lengthy, but well worth it process, I believe.
>>
>> I will see my 'new' keys tomorrow night when I get to my home in Texas.
>> I am excited about that. I will be getting my watchmakers lath as well.
>> If the Blue Racer base needs to be re-chromed, I may try to have it done
>> before I return home to Belize in three weeks.
>>
>> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
>> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
>> (Hopkins Village) Belize
>> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
>> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
>> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
>> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
>> FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
>> LotW
>> Skype: v31joepalooka
>> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

>>
>> On 10/31/2011 8:47 AM, k4oso@... <mailto:k4oso@...> wrote:
>>> I'll let you be the expert on the process, Joe. My Racer is all
>>> done and looking good. ha ha. It was not expensive and did not
>>> expose me to hazardous chemicals. Thats what I call a cool process.
>>> 161, Milt
>>> In a message dated 10/31/2011 10:37:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
>>> k8jp@... <mailto:k8jp@...> writes:
>>>
>>> Chrome requires two steps, Milt.
>>> Typically copper, then the chromium.
>>> Nickel can be done in one step, but copper first gives
>>> polished nickel a deeper shine, supposedly.
>>>
>>
>>
>> _____
>> *60-Year-Old Mom Looks 27*
>> Mom Reveals Free Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!
>> <http://thirdpartyoffers.netzero.net/TGL3242/4eaebb1b1967ef8e96fst05vuc>ConsumerLifesty
les.org
>> <http://ConsumerLifestyles.org>
>
>
>

# 1686. McElroy P-500 Nameplate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-01 21:53:33 UTC
From: cqdek6uj
Topic: 1686  Message: 1686

Anyone need a new nameplate for a McElroy P-500 ?
I have a spare one available.

73,
Bob
K6UJ

# 1687. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500 Nameplate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-01 22:09:33 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1686  Message: 1687

Bob, as matter of fact, yes I do, restoring a P-500 I picked up
from Ebay and could use a plate.
If still available how much etc..
73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> Anyone need a new nameplate for a McElroy P-500 ?
> I have a spare one available.
>
> 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>
>
>
>

# 1688. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500 Nameplate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-01 22:32:16 UTC
From: Bob K6UJ
Topic: 1686  Message: 1688
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Merv,

No charge Merv. Happy to help a fellow bug user/collector.
Give me your address and I will send it to you.
Here are a couple of shots of my P-500 showing the old and new nameplate
so you can see what the nameplate looks like.

73,
Bob
K6UJ

THE OLD NAMEPLATE

NEW NAMEPLATE INSTALLED

On Nov 1, 2011, at 3:09 PM, Merv Schweigert wrote:

> Bob, as matter of fact, yes I do, restoring a P-500 I picked up
> from Ebay and could use a plate.
> If still available how much etc..
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> > Anyone need a new nameplate for a McElroy P-500 ?
> > I have a spare one available.
> >
> > 73,
> > Bob
> > K6UJ
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
>

# 1689. Re: McElroy P-500 Nameplate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-01 22:37:08 UTC
From: cqdek6uj
Topic: 1686  Message: 1689

oops forgot pictures wont work !!

Merv,
email me at k6uj@...

73,Bob
K6UJ

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Bob K6UJ <k6uj@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Merv,
>
> No charge Merv. Happy to help a fellow bug user/collector.
> Give me your address and I will send it to you.
> Here are a couple of shots of my P-500 showing the old and new nameplate
> so you can see what the nameplate looks like.
>
> 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>
>
>
>
> THE OLD NAMEPLATE
>
>
>
>
> NEW NAMEPLATE INSTALLED
>
>
> On Nov 1, 2011, at 3:09 PM, Merv Schweigert wrote:
>
> > Bob, as matter of fact, yes I do, restoring a P-500 I picked up
> > from Ebay and could use a plate.
> > If still available how much etc..
> > 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> > > Anyone need a new nameplate for a McElroy P-500 ?
> > > I have a spare one available.
> > >
> > > 73,
> > > Bob
> > > K6UJ
> > >
> > >

> > >
> > >
> >
> >
>

# 1690. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy P-500 Nameplate

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-02 00:17:54 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1686  Message: 1690

Wow super Bob, my P-500 has a black base, have seen a number with
gray base also, guess different years perhaps. Label looks really great.
Did you get those made someplace?
I have a Martin/Bunnell Flash key, the original type design with just a
post
for the lever to pivot on and not a "bridge" or trunion, its has a hand
written
serial on the bottom 300 something, appears to never had a label, would
like to have a label made for it one day. Have a picture or two of labels
from like keys.

I sold my collection some years back, in fact about 12 years back, and
just
have a few keys that I use and like to keep around. Have a McElroy that has
someones name cast into the side of the base from the factory, have not
been
able to determine why or who the guy was to have that done.
I really like to restore old junkers, and try to take them back to original.
Thanks very much Bob appreciate this.
Merv Schweigert K9FD/KH6
POB 351
Maunaloa HI 96770

> Hi Merv,
>
> No charge Merv. Happy to help a fellow bug user/collector.
> Give me your address and I will send it to you.
> Here are a couple of shots of my P-500 showing the old and new nameplate
> so you can see what the nameplate looks like.
>
> 73,
> Bob
> K6UJ
>
>
>
>
>

# 1691. LABEL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-09 00:05:18 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1691  Message: 1691

Bob, label was in the mail, really nice job on the label
and sure going to try and get some I need made up from
the source you quoted.
Have the need also from time to time for other labels like
BC-348 metal tags etc, so this would be perfect,

Sure appreciate you sending it out. Could send you a
Coconut in payment :o)
thanks 73 Merv K9FD/KH6

# 1692. Re: [cw_bugs] LABEL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-09 00:47:39 UTC
From: Bob K6UJ
Topic: 1691  Message: 1692

Merv,

I'm happy it arrived ok. He does nice work.
BTW I used one of your suggestions and after spraying the Vibro base with
the Krylon black wrinkle finish, i let it dry then very lightly dusted it with flat black
and it is peeeeeerfect.
Looks just like an original wrinkle finish. Not glossy, not flat, just a nice matte finish
like from the factory. Thanks for the good suggestion !
I'll send you a pic when I get her reassembled.

73,
Bob
K6UJ

On Nov 8, 2011, at 4:05 PM, Merv Schweigert wrote:

> Bob, label was in the mail, really nice job on the label
> and sure going to try and get some I need made up from
> the source you quoted.
> Have the need also from time to time for other labels like
> BC-348 metal tags etc, so this would be perfect,
>
> Sure appreciate you sending it out. Could send you a
> Coconut in payment :o)
> thanks 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>

# 1693. Mystery holes in Vibroplex Bases

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-09 16:39:38 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1693  Message: 1693

Hi gang,
I recently purchases a 1919 blue racer that had a 1/4 inch hole drilled into the base on the dash side of the pendulum at the level of the dot spring. I've seen several bugs on ebay with similar holes in the same location. The only thing I can imagine is that it was used to screw down the bug.
Has anyone ever noticed this before and have any information on their use?

Bill, wv1n

# 1694. Re: [cw_bugs] Mystery holes in Vibroplex Bases

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-09 17:36:56 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1693  Message: 1694

Bill, I think you have the right idea.  I have seen some with two holes, including my Les Logan 518.  I speculate that these are for installing aboard ship with lots of pitching and rolling.  Land Liners and shore operators seem to have had personal bugs that they carried in cases but the land desks did not move a lot.  The Cavalla and Stewart have permanently installed keys at the radio positions but they are hand keys, not bugs.  Maybe there are some old ship sparkys who can give a more authoritive opinion.  The same would go for aircraft installations and possibly train installations.  A three pound telegraph key flying around the radio room sounds like a patently bad idea.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: William <fretjock@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2011 10:39 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Mystery holes in Vibroplex Bases

Hi gang,
I recently purchases a 1919 blue racer that had a 1/4 inch hole drilled into the base on the dash side of the pendulum at the level of the dot spring. I've seen several bugs on ebay with similar holes in the same location. The only thing I can imagine is that it was used to screw down the bug.
Has anyone ever noticed this before and have any information on their use?

Bill, wv1n

# 1695. Re: [cw_bugs] Mystery holes in Vibroplex Bases

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-09 18:03:39 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1693  Message: 1695

Bill,
Holes in a bug base are "always" used for anchoring the key. There's no other practical reason for having a hole in a solid steel base.
73, Milt

In a message dated 11/9/2011 11:39:42 AM Eastern Standard Time, fretjock@... writes:

Hi gang,
I recently purchases a 1919 blue racer that had a 1/4 inch hole drilled into the base on the dash side of the pendulum at the level of the dot spring. I've seen several bugs on ebay with similar holes in the same location. The only thing I can imagine is that it was used to screw down the bug. Has anyone ever noticed this before and have any information on their use?

Bill, wv1n

# 1696. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-13 19:45:21 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1696

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (8:30-10:30 p.m. E.D.T.), which is Thursday, November 17, 0130-0330z.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201111.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE, DX, and if anyone has a 160M gain antenna, a certificate in the GAIN category as well.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life, plus a starter kit.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1697. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-20 13:39:34 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1173  Message: 1697

This Thursday is the day for turkey.

Tonight is the night for pig - Flying Pigs!

Tonight is the November edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1698. Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 16:13:27 UTC
From: k3eax
Topic: 1698  Message: 1698

These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?

Al in Philadelphia

# 1699. Re: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 16:19:15 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1698  Message: 1699

Actually, most stand alone keyers have several modes, including
non-iambic, Al.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 11/28/2011 10:13 AM, k3eax wrote:
> These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
>
> Al in Philadelphia
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

# 1700. Re: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 16:23:55 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 1698  Message: 1700

If I have a dual lever paddle, I generally don't use the iambic function, anyway. As far as I can tell, the keyer behaves the same way with a single lever paddle. Or am I missing something. Are you trying to use it as a cootie?

73 Kate K6HTN

On Mon, Nov 28, 2011 at 8:19 AM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:

> Actually, most stand alone keyers have several modes, including
> non-iambic, Al.
>
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
> FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
> LotW
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>
>
> On 11/28/2011 10:13 AM, k3eax wrote:
> > These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in
> circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
> >
> > Al in Philadelphia
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
>
> ------------------------------------

>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1701. Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 16:39:59 UTC
From: k3eax
Topic: 1698  Message: 1701

Thank you both for your replies. I've just 'phoned MFJ and was lead to beleive that even though their keyers are labeled "iambic" they will function with my Kent single paddle key. Have I understood MFJ correctly?

Al

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Kate Hutton <katehutton@...> wrote:
>
> If I have a dual lever paddle, I generally don't use the iambic function,
> anyway. As far as I can tell, the key behaves the same way with a single
> lever paddle. Or am I missing something. Are you trying to use it as a
> cootie?
>
> 73 Kate K6HTN
>
> On Mon, Nov 28, 2011 at 8:19 AM, Joseph L Ponte <k8jp@...> wrote:
>
> > Actually, most stand alone keyers have several modes, including
> > non-iambic, Al.
> >
> > 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> > P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> > (Hopkins Village) Belize
> > 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> > 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> > 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> > V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
> > FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
> > LotW
> > Skype: v31 joe palooka
> > http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> >
> >
> > On 11/28/2011 10:13 AM, k3eax wrote:
> > > These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in
> > circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
> > >
> > > Al in Philadelphia
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > ------------------------------------
> > >
> > > Yahoo! Groups Links
> > >

```
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
```

# 1702. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 16:45:04 UTC
From: N9BOR
Topic: 1698  Message: 1702

Yes, you are correct.

73 de Mike, N9BOR

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of k3eax
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 10:40 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Thank you both for your replies. I've just 'phoned MFJ and was lead to beleive that even though their keyers are labeled "iambic" they will function with my Kent single paddle key. Have I understood MFJ correctly?

Al

--

# 1703. Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 17:30:23 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1698  Message: 1703

Check out Kengaus for TICK keyers and Idiom Press for Pico keyers. Both are simple one chip kits that have memory. Easy, small and cheap.
Put a single paddle on them and you will never know they are iambic.
Bill, wv1n

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k3eax" <k3eax@...> wrote:
>
> These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
>
> Al in Philadelphia
>

# 1704. Re: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 19:57:04 UTC
From: Bart Hock
Topic: 1698  Message: 1704

Al,
The iambic keyer response with alternating dits and dahs when BOTH contacts are closed. With the single lever keyer (like my Vibrokeyer) even an Iambic keyer is incapable of "iambic" keying because I can not close both contacts together.
It does work just fine as a non-iambic keyer - holding the dit contact closed causes a string of dits, the dah contact closed causes a string of dahs. No way to get the alternating dits and dahs but I don't really miss that. I don't use a keyer very much but when I do, I just don't use the Iambic function. I hope this helps.

Les

---
From: k3eax <k3eax@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 10:13 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?

Al in Philadelphia

# 1705. Re: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 20:24:45 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1698  Message: 1705

The problem might be with some keyers, if you stroked the paddle back
and forth rapidly,
the keyer will remember those and send di, da, di, dah.

Some keyers have dot and dash memory as well as self completing. Add the
iambic
function, it does take some getting used to. I was not really aware of
my using the
iambic function until I used one of my non-iambic keyers I had sold to a
friend and
visited his shack. Ouch! I really had to concentrate on my sending.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 11/28/2011 1:57 PM, Bart Hock wrote:
>
>
> Al,
> The iambic keyer response with alternating dits and dahs when BOTH
> contacts are closed. With the single lever keyer (like my Vibrokeyer)
> even an Iambic keyer is incapable of "iambic" keying because I can not
> close both contacts together.
> It does work just fine as a non-iambic keyer - holding the dit contact
> closed causes a string of dits, the dah contact closed causes a string
> of dahs. No way to get the alternating dits and dahs but I don't
> really miss that. I don't use a keyer very much but when I do, I just
> don't use the Iambic function. I hope this helps.
>
> Les
>
> ---
> *From:* k3eax <k3eax@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, November 28, 2011 10:13 AM

> *Subject:* [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle
> operation (non-iambic)
>
> These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in
> circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
>
> Al in Philadelphia
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1706. Re: [cw_bugs] Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-28 21:37:20 UTC
From: Al
Topic: 1698  Message: 1706

Thanks to all those who helped me to understand that an electronic keyer is suitable for both iambic and single-paddle operation.

It's interesting to note that I had earlier spoken on the 'phone with the sales representatives of three major mail-order vendors of amateur equipment and none seemed to be aware that single-paddle operation did not require anything other than the typical electronic keyer! So much for trusting that an informed salesperson will be there at the other end of the 'phone-line. Please be aware that MFJ was unlike these three as a technical rep. did explain in detail what several on this group were trying to tell me ---- the failure to understand was my own fault.

Al in Philadelphia

.

# 1707. Anyone have a Codetrol key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-29 19:04:48 UTC
From: w2blc
Topic: 1707  Message: 1707

I need some measurements of it.

Thanks,

Bill W2BLC

# 1708. Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-30 17:05:54 UTC
From: k5est
Topic: 1698  Message: 1708

I have had good success with Jackson Harbor kits,
<http://wb9kzy.com/ham.htm>

73....Walter-K5EST

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k3eax" <k3eax@...> wrote:
>
> These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
>
> Al in Philadelphia
>

# 1709. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Needed: electronic keyer for single-paddle operation (non-iambic)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-11-30 19:51:02 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 1698  Message: 1709

K1EL at http://k1el.com also offers well regarded kits. (Sorry if this has already mentioned and missed by me in this thread!)

73,
Mike ab3ap

On 11/30/2011 12:05 PM, k5est wrote:
>
>
>
> I have had good success with Jackson Harbor kits,
> <http://wb9kzy.com/ham.htm>
>
> 73....Walter-K5EST
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "k3eax" <k3eax@...> wrote:
>>
>> These seem to be unavailable as most newer rigs have built-in circuitry. Any suggestions for a source?
>>
>> Al in Philadelphia

# 1710. Re: [cw_bugs] Flash-Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-12-10 00:39:01 UTC
From: F. Richard Burt
Topic: 1641  Message: 1710
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Good Afternoon, telegraph Buggers:

I have two very well balanced mechanical semi-automatic keying
bugs, one was issued to me by Army MARS

and the other was used by my father in Postal Telegraph operations
before the company went bankrupt in the Great Depression.

I could tell you many stories about how he used that bug in
Command Performance for the Navy during World War-II.

Having developed my own touch in keying that old bug, as I learned
the code, passed my Standard Class tests when I was 14 years old,
I then knew exactly how I thought my Army-issued bug should respond.

The feel of either bug made it possible to move from on to the
other without loss of a single dit.

My bug was made by Vibroplex in Milwaukee, and is identified as
Class J-38, Serial No. 298. Both bugs will smoothly work at very
slow speed, such as was common for Novices (5 words per minute)
when I was still active in the 1960s – into the mid 1970s. Gave
all of my ham gear to a young man who want to become a ham, and
withdrew from my 25-hours per week addiction to ham radio. It was
very complicated, and I don't think it needs to be explained, but
I was never lacking for interesting stuff to involve myself. <grins>

So, here is my proposition. I am mentally damaged from a stroke,
and my brain doesn't comprehend most of the jabbering women on the
evening news cast, much less a stream of code at 25 words per minute,
more
or less.

So, if anyone wants one of these, ...or both of them, I will present
them for a suitable exchange of their value in cash. The dust is
real west Texas dust accumulated from about 1977 to 1989, when I
boxed everything up and move us to Garland, Texas in 1989. Even if
I shine them with suitable buffing and clean all of the dust out of
the crinkled paint(original issue), you won't have any trouble making
it smoothly work at high-speeds, for dad had his very own High-speed
keying/break-in mode operators certificate (U.S. Navy where he found
his super-star performance to good use in war and peace. When
Hurricane Carlia hit Galveston in 1961. He drove his portable radio
station to Galveston, and the USS Enterprise was dispatched to coordinate
emergency communications from him. The started out with voice
transmission, but the static was so severe and they were averaging only

five messages per hour. Dad requested the shipboard radio operator to see if they had speed-key/break-in operator on duty. <pause while inquiring up the chain of commaned> and the reply was “Roger. Want him?:”

They shifted to that mode and began moving five emergency messages every 10 minutes, and Galveston emergency operation on land had connections with their support groups, Red Cross, etc. Yep!!! I am very proud of what my father was able to share with the Navy, but do smile a bit when they describe why they no longer use the Morse Code; upload to sattelite in 15 seconds more than all of the combined emergency traffic that he handled in Hurricane Carla, and download complete manuals for relief activities where needed in another 20 seconds. <grins> No, we didn’t have anything like that in 1961, but I am pleased that we had men who could do what they had to do with operational skills using this bug.

What do you think?

Dick

F. Richard Burt
W5QQM

BrazosValley@verizon.net

Brazos Valley Railways
in N-scale
Brazos Valley Railways
...through the Heart of Texas

.

# 1711. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-12-11 02:40:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1711

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our December sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (Dec 13, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday Dec 14, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201112.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

Added Note: Our NAQCC European Chapter Sprint will take place Wednesday, December 14 from 18:00 to 20:00 UTC. Full information on their website at: naqcc-eu.org/

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 5,787 members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1712. Re: [cw_bugs] Flash-Key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-12-13 02:26:09 UTC
From: wz4cw@comcast.net
Topic: 1641  Message: 1712
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Dick-

I sent you an email regarding the Vibroplex J-36. I sent it direct to BrazosValley@ verizo n.net . I sent it on 12-10-11. I have not received any reply as yet. You may contact me at AG4LS @...
73 Carl WZ4CW

----- Original Message -----
From: "F. Richard Burt" <BrazosValley@...>
To: "cw bugs" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2011 7:39:01 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Flash-Key

Good Afternoon, telegraph Buggers:

I have two very well balanced mechanical semi-automatic keying bugs, one was issued to me by Army MARS

Telegraph Bugs W5EGX and W5QQM 005-2x

and the other was used by my father in Postal Telegraph operations before the company went bankrupt in the Great Depression.

Telegraph Bugs W5EGX 007-2x

I could tell you many stories about how he used that bug in Command Performance for the Navy during World War-II.

Having developed my own touch in keying that old bug, as I learned the code, passed my Standard Class tests when I was 14 years old, I then knew exactly how I thought my Army-issued bug should respond.

The feel of either bug made it possible to move from on to the other without loss of a single dit.

My bug was made by Vibroplex in Milwaukee, and is identified as Class J-38, Serial No. 298. Both bugs will smoothly work at very slow speed, such as was common for Novices (5 words per minute) when I was still active in the 1960s – into the mid 1970s. Gave all of my ham gear to a young man who want to become a ham, and withdrew from my 25-hours per week addiction to ham radio. It was very complicated, and I don’t think it needs to be explained, but I was never lacking for interesting stuff to involve myself. <grins>

So, here is my proposition. I am mentally damaged from a stroke, and my brain doesn’t comprehend most of the jabbering women on the evening news cast, much less a stream of code at 25 words per minute,

more
or less.

So, if anyone wants one of these, ...or both of them, I will present them for a suitable exchange of their value in cash. The dust is real west Texas dust accumulated from about 1977 to 1989, when I boxed everything up and move us to Garland, Texas in 1989. Even if I shine them with suitable buffing and clean all of the dust out of the crinkled paint(original issue), you won't have any trouble making it smoothly work at high-speeds, for dad had his very own High-speed keying/break-in mode operators certificate (U.S. Navy where he found his super-star performance to good use in war and peace. When Hurricane Carlia hit Galveston in 1961. He drove his portable radio station to Galveston, and the USS Enterprise was dispatched to coordinate emergency communications from him. The started out with voice transmission, but the static was so severe and they were averaging only five messages per hour. Dad requested the shipboard radio operator to see if they had speed-key/break-in operator on duty. <pause while inquiring up the chain of commaned> and the reply was "Roger. Want him?:"

They shifted to that mode and began moving five emergency messages every 10 minutes, and Galveston emergency operation on land had connections with their support groups, Red Cross, etc. Yep!!! I am very proud of what my father was able to share with the Navy, but do smile a bit when they describe why they no longer use the Morse Code; upload to sattelite in 15 seconds more than all of the combined emergency traffic that he handled in Hurricane Carla, and download complete manuals for relief activities where needed in another 20 seconds. <grins> No, we didn't have anything like that in 1961, but I am pleased that we had men who could do what they had to do with operational skills using this bug.

What do you think?

Dick

F. Richard Burt
W5QQM

BrazosValley@verizon.net

Brazos Valley Railways
in N-scale
Brazos Valley Railways
...through the Heart of Texas

.

# 1713. how was this used ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-12-18 01:57:15 UTC
From: riceboxjim
Topic: 1713  Message: 1713

Check out my new purchase - - - I have no clue what or how this was used

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/album/61113391/pic/1686480757/view?picmode=&mode=tn&order=ordinal&start=1&count=20&dir=asc

any info would be appreciated

Rice

# 1714. Re: [cw_bugs] how was this used ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2011-12-18 02:25:40 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1713  Message: 1714

I would be interested to know, also. Also, that is the first Teletype
speed key I have
seen in years! Very nice.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743 CWops 876, A1OP, SKCC 3171T, NAQCC 5798, FISTS 7625 CC 951
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

On 12/17/2011 7:57 PM, riceboxjim wrote:
> Check out my new purchase - - - I have no clue what or how this was
> used
>
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/album/61113391/pic/1686480757/view?picmode=
&mode=tn&order=ordinal&start=1&count=20&dir=asc
>
> any info would be appreciated
>
> Rice
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

# 1715. My new callsign YV5EN (former YV5HUJ)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-11 16:03:27 UTC
From: YV5EN
Topic: 1715  Message: 1715

Hi to all guys and happy new year to all of you and yours,

I want to announce that I have received from the telecommunication authorities a new callsign YV5EN (former YV5HUJ). I have created my new email address and I'm in the middle of the accounts migration process from the old one (YV5HUJ related) to the new one (YV5EN related). I think I must unsubscribe YV5HUJ from CW Bugs group and subscribe me again with my new callsign YV5EN, so I will make it in a few days.

Many 72 and 73 to all of you and please take care,

Edwin - YV5EN
(former YV5HUJ)

# 1716. RFTB Sunday Night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-14 01:58:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1716  Message: 1716

Sunday night is the January 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

Something new for the New Year - make sure to use the Autolog feature to enter your score after the Sprint. This Wednesday evening, I will take all the callsigns that enter their score into the Autolog and will put them in a hat. A random call will be drawn and the lucky winner will receive a Flying Pigs wristwatch. You don't have to be the highest score to win - but you do have to enter the Sprint to win!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1717. PY2ZJ ROB - TETRAPREGIA

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-14 11:18:15 UTC
From: Roberto
Topic: 1717  Message: 1717

Good morning dear friend.
I hope you forgive me by off topic, but it is through him that I come to ask your charity to disclose this Youtube link where we have a handicapped boy with tetrapregia. We are doing a lot of campaigning for access to the Youtube link so he can raise money for his medical treatment is discontinued. Our intention is to disseminate this video from our radio amateurs and also among his friends and family.
Here the address of the Youtube link:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=yNQY9bnQAUk
I hope you understand the reason for this email and forgive me the courage to have it written.
With my sincere good wishes.
ROB PY2ZJ

# 1718. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-16 02:32:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1718

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (Jan 18, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday Jan 19, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201201.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 5,840+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life. A great way to start the New Year!!

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1719. The conductive strips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-20 03:52:26 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1719  Message: 1719

As I was looking over my restoration project, a question came to mind.
I have seen these strips both nickel plated brass and just plain brass.
As I wish this restoration to be as true as I can make it, what is/were the
rules regarding the conductive strips. I have seen them both ways over
various vintages. Anybody know the criteria that determined which type
was used?

Thank you for your time.

--
73, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
FOC 1743,CWops 876,A1OP,SKCC 3171T,NAQCC 5798,FISTS 7625CC951,FP 2819
LotW
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

# 1720. Re: [cw_bugs] The conductive strips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-20 13:54:59 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1719  Message: 1720

No one can know for the early ones, but I don't recall ever having seen a plated strap until the deluxe keys which began in 1939.

161 Fred

As I was looking over my restoration project, a question came to mind.
I have seen these strips both nickel plated brass and just plain brass.
As I wish this restoration to be as true as I can make it, what is/were the rules regarding the conductive strips. I have seen them both ways over various vintages. Anybody know the criteria that determined which type was used?

Thank you for your time.

--
73,

# 1721. Re: [cw_bugs] The conductive strips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-20 14:39:21 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1719  Message: 1721

My 1926 Original has grey connecting strips - I can't say if it is just dull nickel plate or paint, but I suspect it is plating of some sort. My 1915 Blue Racer type has the same.

73
DR

On Thu, Jan 19, 2012 at 10:52 PM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:

> As I was looking over my restoration project, a question came to mind.
> I have seen these strips both nickel plated brass and just plain brass.
> As I wish this restoration to be as true as I can make it, what is/were the
> rules regarding the conductive strips. I have seen them both ways over
> various vintages. Anybody know the criteria that determined which type
> was used?
>
> Thank you for your time.
>
> --
> 73, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
> FOC 1743,CWops 876,A1OP,SKCC 3171T,NAQCC 5798,FISTS 7625CC951,FP 2819
> LotW
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1722. Re: [cw_bugs] The conductive strips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-20 15:05:32 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1719  Message: 1722

My 1917 is grey also, but does not look plated. Looks like a metal that has zinc in it. My earlier ones are all brass.

FD

My 1926 Original has grey connecting strips - I can't say if it is just dull nickel plate or paint, but I suspect it is plating of some sort. My 1915 Blue Racer type has the same.

73
DR

# 1723. Re: [cw_bugs] The conductive strips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-01-20 18:44:53 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1719  Message: 1723

I have looked at my keys which range from two 1921 Originals through several manufactured in the 50s to a three year old Anniversary.  The appearance varies with some deterioration obvious with age.  The 1921 models, now 89 years old show a dull grey finish with some rust spots.  The 50s era show a little bright finish at the ends and dull finish in the middle.  My newer key is a bright finish all the way.  I would speculate that the material is plated steel strap.  I would speculate that the plating is Cadmium.  There would be no reason to plate these with Nickel or other expensive material.  Bear in mind that these keys were manufactured for the professional land line and later radio telegraph operators.  Not wealthy collectors and they were intended to give good service for 10 or 20 years, not to be display pieces 50 or 100 years later. I have done nothing to my keys for restoration and would not replace these strips as long as they are
making good contact which mine all do.  Good bolts are cadmium plated and really rust resistant.  Cheap bolts are thin cadmium plated and intended to look good until the package is opened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2012 8:39 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] The conductive strips

My 1926 Original has grey connecting strips - I can't say if it is just dull nickel plate or paint, but I suspect it is plating of some sort.  My 1915 Blue Racer type has the same.

73
DR

On Thu, Jan 19, 2012 at 10:52 PM, Joseph L Pontek <k8jp@...> wrote:

As I was looking over my restoration project, a question came to mind.
>I have seen these strips both nickel plated brass and just plain brass.
>As I wish this restoration to be as true as I can make it, what is/were the
>rules regarding the conductive strips.  I have seen them both ways over
>various vintages.  Anybody know the criteria that determined which type
>was used?
>
>Thank you for your time.
>
>--
>73, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty&  Sidney Pontek
>P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
>(Hopkins Village) Belize
>011-501-503-7346 Belize

>011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
>903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
>V31JP K8JP VP5/K8JP VP5JP K8JP/VA2
>FOC 1743,CWops 876,A1OP,SKCC 3171T,NAQCC 5798,FISTS 7625CC951,FP 2819
>LotW
>Skype: v31joepalooka
>http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>
>
>
>-----
>
>Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1724. London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-10 15:08:31 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1724  Message: 1724

Hi,

I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke

K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1725. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-10 23:23:42 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1725  Message: 1725

No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.  I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain it to everyone.  It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do the damage than it took me to explain what happened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Joseph L Pontek <v31jp@...>
To: "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@...>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

So, you got robbed, Cookie?

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: undisclosed recipients: ;

Hi,
I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1726. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-10 23:32:08 UTC
From: Al
Topic: 1725  Message: 1726

Willis I usually send  thugs like that a message asking them call. The number given is to the local office of the F.B.I.!

Al

From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "k8jp@..." <k8jp@...>
Cc: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:23 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.  I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain it to everyone.  It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do the damage than it took me to explain what happened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
From: Joseph L Ponte <v31jp@...>
To: "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@...>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

So, you got robbed, Cookie?-------- Original Message --------
Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: undisclosed recipients: ;
Hi,
I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1727. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-11 00:13:03 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1725  Message: 1727

They are 'Ingenious Little Bast..' I will give them that ! Glad it was
Bogus Willis..oh.. I have a few older Cell Phones around if your
interested ? ;o) 73
Jerry VE6CPP

On 2/10/2012 4:32 PM, Al wrote:
> Willis I usually send thugs like that a message asking them call. The
> number given is to the local office of the F.B.I.!
>
> Al
>
> *From:* WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
> *To:* "k8jp@..." <k8jp@...>
> *Cc:* "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Sent:* Friday, February 10, 2012 6:23 PM
> *Subject:* Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS
> COOKE
> No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.
> I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain
> it to everyone. It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do
> the damage than it took me to explain what happened.
> Willis 'Cookie' Cooke K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
> *From:* Joseph L Ponte <v31jp@...>
> *To:* "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@...>
> *Sent:* Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
> *Subject:* Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
> So, you got robbed, Cookie?-------- Original Message --------
> Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
> Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
> From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...> <mailto:wrcooke@...>
> Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> To: undisclosed recipients: ;
>
> Hi,
> I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here
> to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were
> mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card
> including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still
> have our Live and passports saved with us.
>
> We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping
> issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're
> having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't
> let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your
> Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the

> moment!!
>
> Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
> K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
>
>

# 1728. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-11 02:42:11 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1725  Message: 1728

Al, all I know is that someone said to be in Nigeria hacked into my Yahoo account, then opened my email account, sent the message to everyone on my contact list which was a lot of folks when it included my dog racing and my ham radio associates then deleted all the messages and my contact list.  I have not yet been able to contact anyone in Yahoo to even report it because all I can find are robots who want me to look at canned lists.  I have had no contact with the person in Nigeria and I have no idea who he or she might be. I have heard a recent report that the FBI had a conversation with Scotland Yard about hackers and a hacker recorded the conversation and put it on the internet.  So where do you turn?

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Al <k3eax@...>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 5:32 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Willis I usually send  thugs like that a message asking them call. The number given is to the local office of the F.B.I.!

Al

From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "k8jp@..." <k8jp@arrl.net>
Cc: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:23 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.  I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain it to everyone.  It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do the damage than it took me to explain what happened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
From: Joseph L Ponte <v31jp@...>
To: "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@...>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

So, you got robbed, Cookie? -------- Original Message --------
Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: undisclosed recipients: ;
Hi,
I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United

Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1729. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-11 15:24:34 UTC
From: Bart Hock
Topic: 1725  Message: 1729

Cookie,
If you'd just sent him your bank account numbers so he could deposit all that money he wants to give you none of this would have happened. Sorry OM, I do know what a pain this is; let me know if I can do anything.
Les

---
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 8:42 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Al, all I know is that someone said to be in Nigeria hacked into my Yahoo account, then opened my email account, sent the message to everyone on my contact list which was a lot of folks when it included my dog racing and my ham radio associates then deleted all the messages and my contact list.  I have not yet been able to contact anyone in Yahoo to even report it because all I can find are robots who want me to look at canned lists.  I have had no contact with the person in Nigeria and I have no idea who he or she might be. I have heard a recent report that the FBI had a conversation with Scotland Yard about hackers and a hacker recorded the conversation and put it on the internet.  So where do you turn?

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Al <k3eax@arrl.net>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 5:32 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Willis I usually send  thugs like that a message asking them call. The number given is to the local office of the F.B.I.!

Al

From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "k8jp@..." <k8jp@...>
Cc: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:23 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.  I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain it to everyone.  It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do the damage than it took me to explain what happened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
From: Joseph L Ponte <v31jp@netzero.com>

To: "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@...>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

So, you got robbed, Cookie? -------- Original Message --------
Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: undisclosed recipients: ;
Hi,
I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1730. Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-11 15:45:43 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1725  Message: 1730

Thanks Les,  I just asked the subscribers to MusketeerMail (a Beechcraft Airplane) who have extra money that they are inclined to send to my hacker to buy something for their Valentine, even if their Valentine is their airplane.  I hereby ask the subscribers to this forum to buy their Valentine a new or used semi-automatic telegraph key, even if it is a self Valentine present.  If you really want to donate to me, you can send the key to Texas.  Please don't send it to Nigeria unless the hacker can produce a license and promise to make many bug QSOs with us!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Bart Hock <wb5jwi@...>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2012 9:24 AM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Cookie,
If you'd just sent him your bank account numbers so he could deposit all that money he wants to give you none of this would have happened. Sorry OM, I do know what a pain this is; let me know if I can do anything.
Les

---
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 8:42 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Al, all I know is that someone said to be in Nigeria hacked into my Yahoo account, then opened my email account, sent the message to everyone on my contact list which was a lot of folks when it included my dog racing and my ham radio associates then deleted all the messages and my contact list.  I have not yet been able to contact anyone in Yahoo to even report it because all I can find are robots who want me to look at canned lists.  I have had no contact with the person in Nigeria and I have no idea who he or she might be. I have heard a recent report that the FBI had a conversation with Scotland Yard about hackers and a hacker recorded the conversation and put it on the internet.  So where do you turn?

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Al <k3eax@...>
To: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@...m>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 5:32 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

Willis I usually send  thugs like that a message asking them call. The number given is to the local office of the F.B.I.!

Al

From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: "k8jp@..." <k8jp@...>
Cc: "cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 6:23 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

No, I am not in London, I did not get mugged, I don't need your money.  I just got hacked by a Nigerian and got robbed of my day to explain it to everyone.  It took the no good a lot less time to hack in and do the damage than it took me to explain what happened.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart
From: Joseph L Ponte <v31jp@...>
To: "WILLIS "Cookie" COOKE, K5EWJ" <wrcooke@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:48 AM
Subject: Fwd: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE

So, you got robbed, Cookie? -------- Original Message --------
Subject: [cw_bugs] London Trip.....(Help Needed).....WILLIS COOKE
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 2012 07:08:31 -0800 (PST)
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
Reply-To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
To: undisclosed recipients: ;
Hi,
I'm writing this with tears in my eyes,my family and I came down here to London, United Kingdom for a short vacation. unfortunately,we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed,all cash,credit card including cell phone was stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our Live and passports saved with us.

We've been to the Embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in few hours from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills. Well I really need your Help,Please let me know if you can help us out? Am freaked out at the moment!!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

# 1731. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-11 17:45:47 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1731

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (Feb 14, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday Feb 15, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201202.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 5,880+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life. A great way to start the New Year!!

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1732. A-to-Z question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-18 14:16:13 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1732  Message: 1732

Afternoon Folks

A little question I've been wondering about:

Did A-to-Z  Electric Novelty co ever produce a Vibroplex #4 clone?

I know they produced the Original, Double Lever, and X clones, so it would stand to reason that Levey would at some stage decide to produce a clone of the #4, and considering that it would be easier to produce than say the Double lever or the X, that he'd have given it a go.
Or had Albright already dispatched poor old Max by the time the #4 was in production?

But I can't say I've ever seen a AtoZ number #4. were any ever produced?

Michael - MM1EWA/K0ALE

# 1733. Re: A-to-Z question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-18 15:32:58 UTC
From: David Holley
Topic: 1732  Message: 1733

Michael and group,

I have an early #4 clone that I suspect was made by A-to-Z. It was not labeled but shares many of the characteristics of
the early A-to-Z keys. The narrow yoke and heavy hardware are very similar to early labeled A-to-Z keys. The key has a U
damper, pin terminals and is nickel plated. The gentleman that I bought it from also thought it was A-toZ.

Have a great weekend,
Dave de N5MO

# 1734. Re: A-to-Z question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-18 15:39:42 UTC
From: Michael MacLeod
Topic: 1732  Message: 1734

Hi Dave

Thanks for the reply.

Very interesting indeed, do you have any pictures of this bug? I'd love to see them if you do!

I find Vibroplex clones quite fascinating.

Regards

Michael - MM1EWA/K0ALE

# 1735. Need Dow-Key Bug Part

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-02-24 03:15:12 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 1735  Message: 1735

I acquired a nice Universal Deluxe bug but the red circle is missing. Does anyone have an extra or know where I can get one??

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h / 210.884.6926c

"Too many projects, not enough time".

# 1736. Vibroplex Damper Wheel Adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-09 01:00:39 UTC
From: dg869500
Topic: 1736  Message: 1736

Greeting to everyone!

I just happened to run across this nice group and thought I would like to join, especially after reading some of the past postings.

I have been using a bug for many years and I have never actually ran across any (official) documentation on the proper setting or adjustment of the little DAMPER WHEEL.

I have always adjusted the center screw inside the damper wheel to allow the damper wheel to be just a little bit loose on the damper arm and of course afterwards re-snugging the small 4-36 nut in order to lock the screw in position.

I would further say just loose enough so that you can take your finger and barely wobble the wheel just a little bit. That setting has always seemed to work out best for me over the years.

Any comments would be welcomed!

Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1737. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Damper Wheel Adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-09 01:25:27 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1736  Message: 1737

I adjust so the wheel can roll, and at rest touches the vibratator just
rests on it.

N1EA
On Mar 8, 2012 8:00 PM, "dg869500" <cfzepp@...> wrote:

> Greeting to everyone!
>
> I just happened to run across this nice group and thought I would like to
> join, especially after reading some of the past postings.
>
> I have been using a bug for many years and I have never actually ran
> across any (official) documentation on the proper setting or adjustment of
> the little DAMPER WHEEL.
>
> I have always adjusted the center screw inside the damper wheel to allow
> the damper wheel to be just a little bit loose on the damper arm and of
> course afterwards re-snugging the small 4-36 nut in order to lock the screw
> in position.
>
> I would further say just loose enough so that you can take your finger and
> barely wobble the wheel just a little bit. That setting has always seemed
> to work out best for me over the years.
>
> Any comments would be welcomed!
>
> Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1738. WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-16 20:11:58 UTC
From: dg869500
Topic: 1738  Message: 1738

Im restoring a 1964 Vibroplex Original. I am in need of the "Red Knob" for the shorting lever switch for the same.

Anyone have this part that they wish to sell?

Thnaks, Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1739. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-16 20:52:00 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek
Topic: 1738  Message: 1739

I am in the near same shape, Donnie. I have a 1936 Junior that the circuit closure switch black knob is missing. I am going to acquire some black Delrin plastic rod and make one. I might check and see if Small Parts has red rod as well. Your Original must be a Deluxe.

161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Champion, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

On 3/16/2012 2:11 PM, dg869500 wrote:
> Im restoring a 1964 Vibroplex Original. I am in need of the "Red Knob" for the shorting lever switch for the same.
>
> Anyone have this part that they wish to sell?
>
> Thnaks, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>

# 1740. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-16 21:21:43 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1738  Message: 1740

Thanks Joe for the reply. I just thought by chance someone might have this part they wanted to sell. It might be available at Vibroplex but I have not checked with them just yet.

Regards, Donnie
On Mar 16, 2012 4:52 PM, "Joseph L Pontek" <k8jp@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I am in the near same shape, Donnie. I have a 1936 Junior that the circuit
> closure switch black knob is missing. I am going to acquire some black
> Delrin plastic rod and make one. I might check and see if Small Parts
> has red rod as well. Your Original must be a Deluxe.
>
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> Also, K8JP, member
> FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
> LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Champion, Lionel
> J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
> On 3/16/2012 2:11 PM, dg869500 wrote:
> > Im restoring a 1964 Vibroplex Original. I am in need of the "Red Knob"
> for the shorting lever switch for the same.
> >
> > Anyone have this part that they wish to sell?
> >
> > Thnaks, Donnie / WA9TGT
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >

> >
>
>

# 1741. RE: [cw_bugs] WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-16 21:24:44 UTC
From: William Schmidt
Topic: 1738  Message: 1741

Donnie,
You can get those red knobs from the vibroplex website. The red color might be brighter than the red used on the older bugs.
Bill wv1n

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: cfzepp@...
Date: Fri, 16 Mar 2012 20:11:58 +0000
Subject: [cw_bugs] WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Im restoring a 1964 Vibroplex Original. I am in need of the "Red Knob" for the shorting lever switch for the same.

Anyone have this part that they wish to sell?

Thnaks, Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1742. A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 00:46:49 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1742  Message: 1742

Hi, All -

The fully-automatic bug project is moving along, this time with a design that I call the QuadraBug. It is so-called because it uses a compound pendulum, with elements that are in a quadrature arrangement. I had been calling it the OrthoBug (because of the orthogonal relationship), but that sounded too much like an insecticide. I have uploaded some photos to the
Photos section (under WB9LPU's Stuff), and there is a video on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STCHW5SA92o
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STCHW5SA92o> where you can hear and see it in operation.

Another version of the bug is also working (see the last photo), and I am planning a video and write-up as time permits.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1743. Re: [cw_bugs] A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 01:45:23 UTC
From: Mike Markowski
Topic: 1742  Message: 1743

Wow, Rich, excellent craftsmanship! That is the neatest thing I've seen a long while. The pendulum looks like a living thing wiggling around in the center.

The video is very well made, too.

Tnx es 73,
Mike ab3ap

On 03/16/2012 08:46 PM, Richard Meiss wrote:
>
> The fully-automatic bug project is moving along, this time with a design
> that I call the QuadraBug. [...]

# 1744. Re: [cw_bugs] A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 02:01:38 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1742  Message: 1744

Beautiful, Rich! Also, looking forward to seeing a similar video for the QuadraBug II.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Richard Meiss
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 5:46 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Hi, All -

The fully-automatic bug project is moving along, this time with a design that I call the QuadraBug. It is so-called because it uses a compound pendulum, with elements that are in a quadrature arrangement. I had been calling it the OrthoBug (because of the orthogonal relationship), but that sounded too much like an insecticide. I have uploaded some photos to the
Photos section (under WB9LPU's Stuff), and there is a video on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STCHW5SA92o where you can hear and see it in operation.

Another version of the bug is also working (see the last photo), and I am planning a video and write-up as time permits.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 1745. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB / Shorting Switch "Red Knob"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 10:56:59 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1738  Message: 1745

Thanks to all who responded, I located the part I needed.

Regards, Donnie

On Fri, Mar 16, 2012 at 4:11 PM, dg869500 <cfzepp@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Im restoring a 1964 Vibroplex Original. I am in need of the "Red Knob" for
> the shorting lever switch for the same.
>
> Anyone have this part that they wish to sell?
>
> Thnaks, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
>
>

# 1746. Re: [cw_bugs] A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 12:31:16 UTC
From: George
Topic: 1742  Message: 1746

Hi Rich,
Nice work!
George
W2GS

On 3/16/2012 7:46 PM, Richard Meiss wrote:
>
> Hi, All -
>
> The fully-automatic bug project is moving along, this time with a
> design that I call the QuadraBug. It is so-called because it uses
> a compound pendulum, with elements that are in a quadrature
> arrangement. I had been calling it the OrthoBug (because of the
> orthogonal relationship), but that sounded too much like an
> insecticide. I have uploaded some photos to the
> Photos section (under WB9LPU's Stuff), and there is a video on YouTube
> at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STCHW5SA92o where you can hear and
> see it in operation.
>
> Another version of the bug is also working (see the last photo),
> and I am planning a video and write-up as time permits.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>

# 1747. Re: [cw_bugs] A new type of fully-automatic bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 12:48:55 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1742  Message: 1747

Excellent work Rich!

Looking forward to seeing it at the April 7th meeting.

Donnie / WA9TGT
On Mar 17, 2012 8:34 AM, "George" <at6c@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Hi Rich,
> Nice work!
> George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/16/2012 7:46 PM, Richard Meiss wrote:
>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> The fully-automatic bug project is moving along, this time with a
> design that I call the QuadraBug. It is so-called because it uses
> a compound pendulum, with elements that are in a quadrature arrangement. I
> had been calling it the OrthoBug (because of the orthogonal relationship),
> but that sounded too much like an insecticide. I have uploaded some photos
> to the
> Photos section (under WB9LPU's Stuff), and there is a video on YouTube at
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=STCHW5SA92o where you can hear and see it
> in operation.
>
> Another version of the bug is also working (see the last photo), and
> I am planning a video and write-up as time permits.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>

# 1748. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-17 15:56:02 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1748

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (March 21, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday March 22, 0030-0230Z in all cases. Note the Z time change because of going to Daylight Savings time on March 11.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201203.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 5,940+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1749. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-03-18 14:49:04 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1173  Message: 1749

Tonight is the March 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1750. Bug Sweet Spot Settings!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-05 00:30:27 UTC
From: dg869500
Topic: 1750  Message: 1750

Don't you just know it when you finally hit the sweet spot setting on a bug? You Bet You Do!

Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1751. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-07 15:01:41 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1751

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our April sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (April 10, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday April 11, 0030-0230Z in all cases. Note the Z time change because of going to Daylight Savings time on March 11, 2012.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201203.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 5,970+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

This month the NAQCC European Chapter will also hold their monthly sprint on April 11th from 1800 to 2000 UTC. Rules on their websie at: naqcc-eu.org/

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1753. Brad Pins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-24 11:08:05 UTC
From: dg869500
Topic: 1753  Message: 1753

Does anyone know the size and possibly a source for the small round headed brad pins used to secure the pendulum rod to the main levers flat spring on Vibroplex bugs?

Thanks, Donnie

# 1754. Re: [cw_bugs] Brad Pins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-24 13:19:59 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1753  Message: 1754

Hi Donny,

Those are rivets. I punch them out with my watchmaker's staking tool. I then turn new rivets out of silver-nickel or half-hard lead brass rod if I am going to
re-plate the rod. I have not found any ready made, but you might try Vibroplex.
I forgot what the diameter of the rivet body is. I have, or hope I still have the pin
to punch them out with as I use it to also punch the new springs when I replace
them. I start with 1/8" rod which is the size of the head or 0.125". The body is
about 0.090", if I remember correctly. I don't have my notes up here in the States with me, nor are they in the computer, something I need to fix.

Funny you should bring it up as I am ordering some more rod today to take back to Belize with me just for that.

On 4/24/2012 6:08 AM, dg869500 wrote:
>
> Does anyone know the size and possibly a source for the small round
> headed brad pins used to secure the pendulum rod to the main levers
> flat spring on Vibroplex bugs?
>
> Thanks, Donnie
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Champion, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1755. Re: [cw_bugs] Brad Pins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-24 14:39:26 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1753  Message: 1755

Hi Joe:
Thanks for the pin info. I will probably make my own if I can not find suitable pins. Thanks for your suggestions as its always good to have input from others.

Regards, Donnie
On Apr 24, 2012 9:20 AM, "Joe V31JP" <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Hi Donny,
>
> Those are rivets. I punch them out with my watchmaker's staking tool. I
> then
> turn new rivets out of silver-nickel or half-hard lead brass rod if I am
> going to
> re-plate the rod. I have not found any ready made, but you might try
> Vibroplex.
> I forgot what the diameter of the rivet body is. I have, or hope I still
> have the pin
> to punch them out with as I use it to also punch the new springs when I
> replace
> them. I start with 1/8" rod which is the size of the head or 0.125". The
> body is
> about 0.090", if I remember correctly. I don't have my notes up here in
> the
> States with me, nor are they in the computer, something I need to fix.
>
> Funny you should bring it up as I am ordering some more rod today to take
> back to Belize with me just for that.
>
> On 4/24/2012 6:08 AM, dg869500 wrote:
>
>
>
> Does anyone know the size and possibly a source for the small round headed
> brad pins used to secure the pendulum rod to the main levers flat spring on
> Vibroplex bugs?
>
> Thanks, Donnie
>
>
> --
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek

> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-503-7346 Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
> LotW Skype: v31joepalookahttp://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Champion, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>
>

# 1756. Re: [cw_bugs] Brad Pins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-04-24 17:25:25 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1753  Message: 1756

I have gone to a good hardware store and found brass brads of the correct diameter, cut them to length and peened them like a rivet. Worked quite well, I plated them with a nickle plating kit I had from Antique electronic supply. Also found brass brads that worked for attaching labels.
I used a jewelers staking set to punch out those brads and pushing them back in, peening them etc. Watch ebay for cheap deals on staking sets, they are super for working on bugs and other small items.
73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> Does anyone know the size and possibly a source for the small round headed brad pins used to secure the pendulum rod to the main levers flat spring on Vibroplex bugs?
>
> Thanks, Donnie
>
>
>
> ----------
>
>

# 1757. Ist Annual NJQRP Skeeter Hunt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-05-03 02:25:44 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1757  Message: 1757

The NJQRP Club is announcing a new summertime operating event - "The Skeeter Hunt". The objective is to get QRPers out of their shacks for the day; and into the fresh air and sunshine, to spread their wings and fill the airwaves with "Skeeters".

While commercial equipment can certainly utilized, bonus multipliers will be awarded for those who personally home brewed their own or kit built their own equipment (equipment not built by the operator would not count as either home brewed or kit built - it would be considered commercial equipment). The inaugural event is to be held on Sunday August 12th. It will be a four hour sprint - from 17:00 UTC to 21:00 UTC (1:00 TO 5:00 PM EDT).

The theme for this year is "My favorite outdoor place". You are encouraged to operate from your favorite outdoor place and tell us about it in your Soapbox comments.

Stations who wish to be designated as "Skeeters" can get a Skeeter number by requesting one by sending an e-mail to w2lj@... Skeeter numbers would be issued from May through the day before the event.

Station Classes and Multipliers
X1 Home stations - commercial equipment
X2 Home stations - home brewed or kit built equipment
X3 Portable station - commercial equipment
X4 Portable station - home brewed or kit built equipment

Portable stations cannot use permanent antennas, i.e you can't work from your backyard, hook up to your dipole or tower and yagi and be considered a portable station. Also, portable stations cannot be connected to the local power grid - alternative energy sources must be used - solar, battery, wind, etc.

Exchange -
Skeeter Stations - RST, S/P/C, Skeeter number
Non-Skeeter Stations - RST, S/P/C, Output power

Mode - CW
Power - 5W max

Scoring -
Working a Skeeter Station - 2 points
Working a non-Skeeter Station - 1 point

Total score equals the number of QSO points times the number of S/P/Cs worked on all bands (stations can be worked on multiple bands for QSO points and S/P/C credit) times the multiplier for station class.

Bonus points - design and home brew a key or paddle specifically for the event and earn an extra 1000 points.

Suggested frequencies:
The QRP "Watering Holes

80 Meters ~ 3.560 MHz
40 Meters ~ 7.040 and 7.030 MHz
20 Meters ~ 14.060 MHz
15 Meters ~ 21.060 MHz
10 Meters ~ 28.060 MHz

These are suggested starting points, of course. Feel free to spread out and give your "Skeeter" wings a chance to do their thing.

Logs, photos and soapbox comments can be sent to w2lj@... no later than 30 days after the event. Certificates will be issued to the top scorers of each category as well as others to be determined.

A table of call signs and issued "Skeeter" numbers will appear on a page at http://w2lj.blogspot.com/.

Hope to hear and work all of you during this new event. Special thanks to the NJQRP club for their sponsorship!

72 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

# 1758. Chasing a gremlin 1943 Vibroplex Original Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-05-06 13:17:44 UTC
From: wa9tgt
Topic: 1758  Message: 1758

I recently purchased a 1943 Vibroplex Original bug and upon receipt of the key I quickly made a couple minor repairs, then proceeded to put the key on the air.

All was well at first but I soon noticed that once in a while the Dah contact would occasionally not make good contact while I was sending. I had of course already cleaned all the contact surfaces with a pencil eraser so my first reaction was to simply pull a strip of paper through the Dah contacts to dislodge any particle of dirt. At times this seemed to fix the problem but the problem would always reoccur.

I finally found the problem, it seems the silver contact was not making good electrical connection to the Dah adjusting screw. I removed the contact from the adjusting screw, cleaned the contacts small mounting stem and afterwards lightly tinned the small stem with a thin layer of solder. I then pressed the contact back down into the Dah adjusting screw.

Results: Intermittent Dah contact problem is now 100% resolved.

Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1759. Re: [cw_bugs] Chasing a gremlin. 1943 Vibroplex Ori ginal Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-05-06 14:08:15 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 1759  Message: 1759

Fascinating ! The weird things that happen with contacts never fail to astonish me.

I had an old Post Office key once, which sometimes didn't make contact. The pivot was a steel taper-pin, and it ran in the brass fixed trunnions. After a few measurement with an Ohm-meter, I found it needed a wire to bridge the bearing. Perhaps in Post-office service, they were used so much that they kept up good continuity, but with me spending perhaps an hour a day - and passing only light current, too - it just gave up.

Thanks - 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 1760. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-05-12 14:03:49 UTC
From: John D. Raycroft
Topic: 907  Message: 1760

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our May sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (May 16, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday May 17, 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201205.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

The April Sprint was our biggest and best one yet, with lots of activity - you do not want to miss out on this one!

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1761. WB9LPU / Bug / QRP Homebrew Contest Winner

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-05-22 01:04:01 UTC
From: wa9tgt
Topic: 1761  Message: 1761

I just wanted to let everyone know that my good friend Richard Meiss / WB9LPU won the QRP homebrew contest with one of his new bugs at Dayton.

CONGRATULATIONS Rich!

Rich also put on a fantastic presentation at our last ECI-QRP meeting here in Muncie, IN this past April.

Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1762. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-09 14:00:47 UTC
From: John D Raycroft
Topic: 927  Message: 1762

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (May 16, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday June 13, 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201206.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Added Note: The NAQCC European Chapter Sprint will also take place Wednesday, June 13, 1800-2000 UTC. Full information on their website at: naqcc-eu.org/

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1763. Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 13:38:57 UTC
From: William
Topic: 1763  Message: 1763

On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
Bill/wv1n

# 1764. Re: Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 14:11:38 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1763  Message: 1764

Bill,
I wonder if you're referring to the grounding screw which assures continuity between the lever and the base, usually on chrome Lightning Bugs. When intact, there is a copper braid attached to the screw.
Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "William" <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>

# 1765. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 14:26:17 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 1763  Message: 1765

"...On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
Bill/wv1n..."

Perhaps it's to hold the pivot on to the lever; it's what it's used for in mine. Its manufacturing date is around 1962. Its base, which I was having re-plated, was lost in the factory - they had a fire - just my sort of luck, so I had a new one made. The key is at home, so I don't know its serial number.

I hope this helps - 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 1766. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 14:43:01 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1766

Bill,

If you are speaking of the screw just behind the arbour/pivot, it is to fix the pendulum height. Some were a press fit while others use the screw to fix the set height of the pendulum as in my Champion. My #6 is in a container waiting for me to reassemble it after the base was re-nickel plated. Darned if I could find a picture of a Frattini J-36 to look at it.

On 6/13/2012 8:38 AM, William wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just
> distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the
> lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have
> seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the
> Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1767. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 15:59:10 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1763  Message: 1767

Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.

http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
DR

=30=

On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:

> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just
> distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the
> lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it
> on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38
> reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1768. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 16:19:05 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 1763  Message: 1768

http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm Gets U a beautiful picture if U can QRX long enough. My Internet is slow !

QAC de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 1769. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 16:26:47 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1769

Finally, I see the Frattini J36. I believe he is referring to the set screw on this one that locks the pendulum height.
Old Vibroplex used a headed screw as in the case of my Champion, it is a oval Phillips head screw in a counter
sunk hole to lock the height.

On 6/13/2012 10:59 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
> Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.
>
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
>
> DR
>
> =30=
>
>
>
> On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...
> <mailto:fretjock@...>> wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw
> just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not
> noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex
> site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also
> present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's
> purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>
>
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize

011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1770. RE: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 17:37:23 UTC
From: William Schmidt
Topic: 1763  Message: 1770

It's on the views marked "partial view". On the Frattini j36 is an allen wrench adjustment but I've seen regular slotted screws on vibroplexes.

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: n1ea@...
Date: Wed, 13 Jun 2012 11:59:10 -0400
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.
http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
DR

=30=

On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:

On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?

Bill/wv1n

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

(Yahoo! ID required)

http://docs.yahoo.com/info/terms/

# 1771. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 17:42:47 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1771

That is to hold/lock the pendulum height to the arbour/pivot rod. Some keys, the hole and pin are a pressed fit, but some use this screw to lock the height or
make it more easily adjustable. I have an Original going to the bench shortly the the pendulum is too low and I have to raise it. It is a press fit. A challenge here as
my tools are at home in Belize.

On 6/13/2012 12:37 PM, William Schmidt wrote:
>
> It's on the views marked "partial view". On the Frattini j36 is an
> allen wrench adjustment but I've seen regular slotted screws on
> vibroplexes.
>
> ---
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: n1ea@...
> Date: Wed, 13 Jun 2012 11:59:10 -0400
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question
>
>
> Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
> DR
>
> =30=
>
>
>
> On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...
> <mailto:fretjock@...>> wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw
> just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not
> noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex
> site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also
> present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's
> purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links

>
>
> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>
>
>
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1772. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 18:27:36 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1763  Message: 1772

Joe is correct. It is a machine screw that presses against the arbour (pivot rod) to prevent it from moving - later Vibroplex's do not have this as they are press fit and basically not adjustable.

What I do if the height is off on pressure fit arbours is I take a 1 inch think pieces of soft wood that I can hold in my hands 2 by 3 by 1 is fine - I use three soft cloths and I use a bench vise.

I disassemble the key and remove the main lever from the trunnion assembly, Be sure to disconnect the grounding braid if the key is a "deluxe" version.

I open the vise and cover each side with cloth thick enough to cushion the blow you will be giving in a moment. I wrap the arbour (pivot rod) with a thin cloth - just to prevent tool marks..

Lay the lever across the jaws of the padded vise and close the vise until you are about 1/16 inch from each side of the arbour. Hold the lever in position and tighten vise until it allows movement of the arbour but doesn't allow it to fall over unless you force it to. In other words "just holding".

Then take a piece of wood - cover the elbow end of the pin with the soft wood and give it a whack with a small hammer. The pin will go down a bit.

You get the idea.

73

On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 1:42 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

>
>
> That is to hold/lock the pendulum height to the arbour/pivot rod. Some
> keys, the hole and pin are a pressed fit, but some use this screw to lock
> the height or
> make it more easily adjustable. I have an Original going to the bench
> shortly the the pendulum is too low and I have to raise it. It is a press
> fit. A challenge here as
> my tools are at home in Belize.
>
>
> On 6/13/2012 12:37 PM, William Schmidt wrote:
>
>
>
> It's on the views marked "partial view". On the Frattini j36 is an
> allen wrench adjustment but I've seen regular slotted screws on vibroplexes.

>
> ----------
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: n1ea@...
> Date: Wed, 13 Jun 2012 11:59:10 -0400
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question
>
>
>
> Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
> DR
>
> =30=
>
>
>
> On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just
> distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not noted on the
> lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it
> on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38
> reproduction. Does anyone know it's purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
> --
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-503-7346 Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
> LotW Skype: v31joepalookahttp://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket
cases to restore.

>
>
>
>
>

# 1773. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-13 19:07:49 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1773

Very correct, DR. If you have as I have and/or made, small pry bars, 2 identical, you can grip the arbour with a smooth jawed vise (covered pads) and I sometimes
use leather as an additional protection. I then can apply pressure upwards on the main bar very close to both sides of the arbour to move it up from where it is gripped.
I cover the pry bars as well. Occasionally, the arbour is not extended or long enough to grip it, then DR's method is used. I, occasionally, can use my staking tool as
well, but not a common tool in shops today.

On 6/13/2012 1:27 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> Joe is correct. It is a machine screw that presses against the arbour
> (pivot rod) to prevent it from moving - later Vibroplex's do not have
> this as they are press fit and basically not adjustable.
>
> What I do if the height is off on pressure fit arbours is I take a 1
> inch think pieces of soft wood that I can hold in my hands 2 by 3 by 1
> is fine - I use three soft cloths and I use a bench vise.
>
> I disassemble the key and remove the main lever from the trunnion
> assembly, Be sure to disconnect the grounding braid if the key is a
> "deluxe" version.
>
> I open the vise and cover each side with cloth thick enough to cushion
> the blow you will be giving in a moment. I wrap the arbour (pivot
> rod) with a thin cloth - just to prevent tool marks..
>
> Lay the lever across the jaws of the padded vise and close the vise
> until you are about 1/16 inch from each side of the arbour. Hold the
> lever in position and tighten vise until it allows movement of the
> arbour but doesn't allow it to fall over unless you force it to. In
> other words "just holding".
>
> Then take a piece of wood - cover the elbow end of the pin with the
> soft wood and give it a whack with a small hammer. The pin will go
> down a bit.
>
> You get the idea.
>
> 73
>
> On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 1:42 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...
> <mailto:v31jp1957@...>> wrote:

>
>
>
> That is to hold/lock the pendulum height to the arbour/pivot rod.
> Some keys, the hole and pin are a pressed fit, but some use this
> screw to lock the height or
> make it more easily adjustable. I have an Original going to the
> bench shortly the the pendulum is too low and I have to raise it.
> It is a press fit. A challenge here as
> my tools are at home in Belize.
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty& Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1774. Father's Day Night RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-17 03:16:57 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1774  Message: 1774

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads out there!

Father's Day night happens to be the June 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1775. Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 00:44:27 UTC
From: wa9tgt
Topic: 1775  Message: 1775

I just posted a picture of a bug I recently finished machining out for myself. I have been using this bug daily now for over 2 weeks and it preforms beautifully.

Bug has a 3" wide base and the base was commercially finished with a Black powder coat textured finish. I machined out all the parts except the stainless steel screws and the (2) coil springs.

The picture of this bug can be found in my photo folder called:

WA9TGT-Bugs

Thank you for looking.....

Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT

# 1776. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:18:04 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1775  Message: 1776

Hello Donnie,

What a beautiful looking key.

Since you've done your own machining, I am going to recommend one change
that is in one of my bugs which makes it probably the best sender of all,
T.R. "Ted" McElroy designed a pre-tensioner which was an "L" shaped piece
of metal held by a set screw located on the vibrator rod

A picture is worth millions of my insufficient words:

More photos and a description of this key are located here:
http://www.greenhillsgf.com/IndexOwn_McElroy_Key2.htm

I have no connection with that person, it's only a picture of what I am
attempting to describe.

One of the worst problems is sparking and jittery dots - this pretensions
the dot spring by holding it back and acting like a damper when the
vibrator moves away.

It works very well.

For others who might want some more of my poor words - click on either of
the two "gopher hole" links and read about how to adjust bugs - just
ramblings that I've learned by trials and lots of errors and asking
question over 50 years of Morse telegraphy.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>
-- Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:*
gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/<gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/>
(native
or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

# 1777. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:19:36 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1775  Message: 1777

That is beautiful, Donnie.

For others, it is here:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/recent/1291589982/view

I am curious, Donnie about what you used for contact material, in
particular, the contact on the Dot spring contact.
Ah, but I can see it is a new key. There is no circuit closure switch.
Hee Hee! Nice job.

On 6/20/2012 7:44 PM, wa9tgt wrote:
>
> I just posted a picture of a bug I recently finished machining out for
> myself. I have been using this bug daily now for over 2 weeks and it
> preforms beautifully.
>
> Bug has a 3" wide base and the base was commercially finished with a
> Black powder coat textured finish. I machined out all the parts except
> the stainless steel screws and the (2) coil springs.
>
> The picture of this bug can be found in my photo folder called:
>
> WA9TGT-Bugs
>
> Thank you for looking.....
>
> Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket

cases to restore.

# 1778. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:35:30 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1775  Message: 1778
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I second, that, Donnie. When I get back to Belize, I will try and
remember a little project I started before I left
and send you a picture of another. My 1938A has the tensioner right in
the same block that the dot spring contact is mounted to
like this:

Mine is disassembled right now. The nice thing about DR's, one like
that can be put on any bug.

Nice key, DR. I can hardly wait to finish mine and get it on the air, a
1938A and I have a basket case 1938B? as well.

On 6/20/2012 8:18 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> Hello Donnie,
>
> What a beautiful looking key.
>
> Since you've done your own machining, I am going to recommend one
> change that is in one of my bugs which makes it probably the best
> sender of all, T.R. "Ted" McElroy designed a pre-tensioner which was
> an "L" shaped piece of metal held by a set screw located on the
> vibrator rod
>
> A picture is worth millions of my insufficient words:
>
>
> More photos and a description of this key are located here:
> http://www.greenhillsgf.com/IndexOwn_McElroy_Key2.htm
>
> I have no connection with that person, it's only a picture of what I
> am attempting to describe.
>
> One of the worst problems is sparking and jittery dots - this
> pretensions the dot spring by holding it back and acting like a damper
> when the vibrator moves away.
>
> It works very well.
>
> For others who might want some more of my poor words - click on either
> of the two "gopher hole" links and read about how to adjust bugs -
> just ramblings that I've learned by trials and lots of errors and
> asking question over 50 years of Morse telegraphy.
>
> 73

>
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
> Group <http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en> --
> Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
> *Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/
> <gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/> (native or with Firefox's
> Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway
> <http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
> *C**hat* Skype: djringjrMSN: djringjr@...
> <mailto:djringjr@...>AIM: N1EAicq: 27380609
>
> =30=
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1779. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:45:03 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1775  Message: 1779

I believe so, in any event it is a fabulous key.

However it is irritating for some reason in that it is difficult to adjust without a screwdriver - I can't adjust it like I do a Vibroplex even though it has knurled screws. Can it be the difference between McElroy's diamond type knurling and Vibroplex's rope type knurling? I have a hunch if I disassemble it and clean it the screws may move more easily and allow adjustment better - but it is more work than just getting out a slotted screw driver and holding the knurled nut stationary while I tighten up on the screw.

I don't want to mess too much with a key that sends beautifully. Why screw up a good key - < grin >
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>
-- Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:*
gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/<gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/>
(native
or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
=30=

On Wed, Jun 20, 2012 at 9:35 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

> I second, that, Donnie. When I get back to Belize, I will try and
> remember a little project I started before I left
> and send you a picture of another. My 1938A has the tensioner right in the
> same block that the dot spring contact is mounted to
> like this:
>
>
> Mine is disassembled right now. The nice thing about DR's, one like that
> can be put on any bug.
>
> Nice key, DR. I can hardly wait to finish mine and get it on the air, a
> 1938A and I have a basket case 1938B? as well.
>
>
>
>
> On 6/20/2012 8:18 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
>
>

> Hello Donnie,
>
> What a beautiful looking key.
>
> Since you've done your own machining, I am going to recommend one change
> that is in one of my bugs which makes it probably the best sender of all,
> T.R. "Ted" McElroy designed a pre-tensioner which was an "L" shaped piece
> of metal held by a set screw located on the vibrator rod
>
> A picture is worth millions of my insufficient words:
>
>
> More photos and a description of this key are located here:
> http://www.greenhillsgf.com/IndexOwn_McElroy_Key2.htm
>
> I have no connection with that person, it's only a picture of what I am
> attempting to describe.
>
> One of the worst problems is sparking and jittery dots - this pretensions
> the dot spring by holding it back and acting like a damper when the
> vibrator moves away.
>
> It works very well.
>
> For others who might want some more of my poor words - click on either of
> the two "gopher hole" links and read about how to adjust bugs - just
> ramblings that I've learned by trials and lots of errors and asking
> question over 50 years of Morse telegraphy.
>
> 73
>
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>
> -- Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
> *Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/<gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/>
(native
> or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
> *C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
>
> =30=
>
>
> --
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-503-7346 Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474

> U.S.A.903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
> LotW Skype: v31joepalookahttp://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>
>
>

# 1780. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:51:12 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1775  Message: 1780

On 6/20/2012 9:19 PM, Joe V31JP wrote:
>
> That is beautiful, Donnie.
>
> For others, it is here:
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos/recent/1291589982/view
>
> I am curious, Donnie about what you used for contact material, in
> particular, the contact on the Dot spring contact.
> Ah, but I can see it is a new key. There is no circuit closure
> switch. Hee Hee! Nice job.
>
>

Wow !!!!

--
73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

http://w2lj.blogspot.com/
http://www.w2lj.qrpradio.com/

# 1781. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 01:08:52 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1775  Message: 1781

Donnie,
Truly a bug of beauty. Well done!
73,
Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: wa9tgt
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 5:44 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

I just posted a picture of a bug I recently finished machining out for myself. I have been using this bug daily now for over 2 weeks and it preforms beautifully.

Bug has a 3" wide base and the base was commercially finished with a Black powder coat textured finish. I machined out all the parts except the stainless steel screws and the (2) coil springs.

The picture of this bug can be found in my photo folder called:

WA9TGT-Bugs

Thank you for looking.....

Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1782. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 03:17:42 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1775  Message: 1782

Donnie, that's pretty incredible! Now you need a label for it -- how about calling it a Donnie-plex or something? Serial #1, etc!

Seriously, that's some beautiful work.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

On Wed, Jun 20, 2012 at 7:08 PM, TroyW6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Donnie,
> Truly a bug of beauty. Well done!
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: wa9tgt
> Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 5:44 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT
>
> I just posted a picture of a bug I recently finished machining out for
> myself. I have been using this bug daily now for over 2 weeks and it
> preforms beautifully.
>
> Bug has a 3" wide base and the base was commercially finished with a Black
> powder coat textured finish. I machined out all the parts except the
> stainless steel screws and the (2) coil springs.
>
> The picture of this bug can be found in my photo folder called:
>
> WA9TGT-Bugs
>
> Thank you for looking.....
>
> Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>

>
>

# 1784. Re: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-21 12:00:11 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1775  Message: 1784

Gentleman: (David, Joe, Larry, Troy, Earl)

My thanks to all of you for the nice comments concerning my newly constructed bug. It was a pleasant challenge to build this key and the end results has been very rewarding. I do enjoy using it on a daily basis.

Rich Meiss WB9LPU who I consider a good friend, actually inspired me to make this semi-automatic key. Rich has done a couple of his magnificent key presentation over the years at our local QRP group meetings. His beautiful and creative key work inspired me to make my own bug.

A question was asked about the dit spring contact. I made the actual contact for the dit spring from a silver coin. The coin was finished down smooth and I used a throat punch to punch out a few silver contacts. I actually soldered the silver contact to the end of the dit spring to provide half of the dit contact. The other half of the dit contact is the faced off and polished end of the 6-32 x 1" stainless steel dit adjustment screw. This arrangement has provided a good electrical and mechanically stable contact. The same type contact arrangement was also used on the dah contact side.

If you have any other questions about the construction of my bug I will be most happy to try to answer your question.

Thanks again for looking at my bug!

Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT

On Wed, Jun 20, 2012 at 11:17 PM, Earl Needham <earl.kd5xb@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Donnie, that's pretty incredible! Now you need a label for it -- how
> about calling it a Donnie-plex or something? Serial #1, etc!
>
> Seriously, that's some beautiful work.
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
>
>
>
> On Wed, Jun 20, 2012 at 7:08 PM, TroyW6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
>> **

>>
>>
>> Donnie,
>> Truly a bug of beauty. Well done!
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: wa9tgt
>> Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2012 5:44 PM
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> Subject: [cw_bugs] Recent Bug Creation by WA9TGT
>>
>> I just posted a picture of a bug I recently finished machining out for
>> myself. I have been using this bug daily now for over 2 weeks and it
>> preforms beautifully.
>>
>> Bug has a 3" wide base and the base was commercially finished with a
>> Black
>> powder coat textured finish. I machined out all the parts except the
>> stainless steel screws and the (2) coil springs.
>>
>> The picture of this bug can be found in my photo folder called:
>>
>> WA9TGT-Bugs
>>
>> Thank you for looking.....
>>
>> Regards, Donnie / WA9TGT
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>
>

# 1785. Adjustment help for Blue Racer (Mobile, AL version)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 00:45:53 UTC
From: Chuck Chandler
Topic: 1785  Message: 1785

I picked up a recent-vintage Blue Racer at the Slidell, LA hamfest last year and have been using it for a while... it's my third bug, after a 1969 standard and a 1957 Lightning. This one seems *VERY* touchy on the dits - there is a tendency to not hold the same adjustment even for a single QSO.

I can adjust the dits to the point where I can get the points to barely close at rest - it will give dozens and dozens of dits before getting scratchy - and will sound fine - and then the next QSO it will start sending scratchy sounding dits.

I have placed a .01 uf cap across the key line (inside the plug housing) on all 3 of my bugs, and it seems to help the other two on modern rigs.

This one has me baffled.

The pendulum arm, at rest, is barely touching the damper.

Any other suggestions would be appreciated!

73 de Chuck, WS1L

--

==========
Chuck Chandler
chandlerusm@...
==========

# 1786. Re: [cw_bugs] Adjustment help for Blue Racer (Mobile, AL version)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 01:12:02 UTC
From: George
Topic: 1785  Message: 1786

Chuck,
This behavior sounds like some thing is lose. Also if you are getting dozens of dits is it possible that someone replaced the spring (sheet metal on dit bar) with a stiffer spring. This would certainly make adjustment hyper critical.

The Blue Racer is a higher speed bug, but can you compare the spring stiffness with another Vibroplex?

73,
George
W2GS
On 6/26/2012 7:45 PM, Chuck Chandler wrote:
>
> I picked up a recent-vintage Blue Racer at the Slidell, LA hamfest
> last year and have been using it for a while... it's my third bug,
> after a 1969 standard and a 1957 Lightning. This one seems *VERY*
> touchy on the dits - there is a tendency to not hold the same
> adjustment even for a single QSO.
>
>
> I can adjust the dits to the point where I can get the points to
> barely close at rest - it will give dozens and dozens of dits before
> getting scratchy - and will sound fine - and then the next QSO it will
> start sending scratchy sounding dits.
>
> I have placed a .01 uf cap across the key line (inside the plug
> housing) on all 3 of my bugs, and it seems to help the other two on
> modern rigs.
>
> This one has me baffled.
>
> The pendulum arm, at rest, is barely touching the damper.
>
> Any other suggestions would be appreciated!
>
> 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@... <mailto:chandlerusm@...>

> ==========
>
>

# 1787. Re: [cw_bugs] Adjustment help for Blue Racer (Mobile, AL version)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 01:29:32 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1785  Message: 1787

Some questions, Chuck, as we have determine what is changing.

You have it set up, it sounds like it should be, with the lever bar at its lever stop screw which is adjusted so that the rod just touches the damper.

When it goes bad, do you have to re-adjust the lever stop screw?

When it goes bad, with the lever pressed to the dot side and is at full stop (not vibrating), do you have to re-adjust the dot station contact?

Funny about your capacitor solution, an old contact bounce cure that sort of worked and came to mind with this Champion I am using.
I had cleaned my contacts with dry, clean paper, an alcohol soaked strip of 24# bond paper before I put it in use, but it had the occasional sound of contact bounce. As I was at the bench, I saw my burnishing tools and applied one to the dot contacts. Problem fixed. It may have been a tiny tit or a very small encrusted bit of crud, but good now. Maybe a similar problem? I noticed just before I burnished the contact, as I turned the stationary contact screw when they were closed as scratchy sound I had not heard before.

Lets go from here, Chuck.

On 6/26/2012 7:45 PM, Chuck Chandler wrote:
>
> I picked up a recent-vintage Blue Racer at the Slidell, LA hamfest
> last year and have been using it for a while... it's my third bug,
> after a 1969 standard and a 1957 Lightning. This one seems *VERY*
> touchy on the dits - there is a tendency to not hold the same
> adjustment even for a single QSO.
>
>
> I can adjust the dits to the point where I can get the points to
> barely close at rest - it will give dozens and dozens of dits before
> getting scratchy - and will sound fine - and then the next QSO it will
> start sending scratchy sounding dits.
>
> I have placed a .01 uf cap across the key line (inside the plug
> housing) on all 3 of my bugs, and it seems to help the other two on
> modern rigs.
>
> This one has me baffled.
>
> The pendulum arm, at rest, is barely touching the damper.
>

> Any other suggestions would be appreciated!
>
> 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@... <mailto:chandlerusm@...>
> ==========
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1788. Re: [cw_bugs] Adjustment help for Blue Racer (Mobile, AL version)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 01:42:43 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1785  Message: 1788

Chuck:
You are going to get lots of suggestions however I once had a similar issue and I finally traced it to a bad connection at the silver contact to the adjustment screw. Try turning the actual contact to see if it's loose on the dit contact screw. Also make sure all the vertical round posts are tight by checking the screws from underneath. Sometimes the old fiber washers begin to deteriorate.

Donnie
On Jun 26, 2012 8:46 PM, "Chuck Chandler" <chandlerusm@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I picked up a recent-vintage Blue Racer at the Slidell, LA hamfest last
> year and have been using it for a while... it's my third bug, after a 1969
> standard and a 1957 Lightning. This one seems *VERY* touchy on the dits -
> there is a tendency to not hold the same adjustment even for a single QSO.
>
> I can adjust the dits to the point where I can get the points to barely
> close at rest - it will give dozens and dozens of dits before getting
> scratchy - and will sound fine - and then the next QSO it will start
> sending scratchy sounding dits.
>
> I have placed a .01 uf cap across the key line (inside the plug housing)
> on all 3 of my bugs, and it seems to help the other two on modern rigs.
>
> This one has me baffled.
>
> The pendulum arm, at rest, is barely touching the damper.
>
> Any other suggestions would be appreciated!
>
> 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@...
> ==========
>
>

>

# 1789. Re: [cw_bugs] Adjustment help for Blue Racer (Mobile, AL version)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 10:12:09 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1785  Message: 1789

Recent vintage blue based Blue Racer 2000 bugs (not a real Blue Racer) are an Original model on a narrow base. Despite the painted bottom, it is a Deluxe model key with synthetic ruby bearings which do not conduct electricity. A good key but with some problems.

Vibroplex modified the way it grounded the Deluxe keys. They removed the grounding braid and two small machine screws which attached the braid to the main lever and to the base of the key. Now the ONLY connection is the dot tension spring. Make sure you have sufficient tension on the spring to avoid loss of continuity.

Also make sure it's clean.

I wrote some instructions for cleaning and using bugs here:
http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending.txt

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>
-- Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:*
gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/<gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/> (native
or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
=30=

# 1790. Blue Racer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 11:28:21 UTC
From: Chuck Chandler
Topic: 1790  Message: 1790

Many thanks for all the suggestions! I will spend some time tonight, I hope, looking into them and report back soonest.

vy 73 de Chuck, WS1L

--

==========
Chuck Chandler
chandlerusm@...
==========

# 1791. Blue Racer update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 18:36:56 UTC
From: Chuck Chandler
Topic: 1791  Message: 1791

Well, I had a chance this morning to try out a few things. In no particular order these are my notes on suggestions from the list - I apologize if I overlooked something, but I think I've got them all.

1. The dot spring (metal u-shaped leaf spring) appears to be roughly the same stiffness as my two others. It's much newer, maybe it's a tad stiffer.

2. I have the Vibroplex burnishing strip, and have gone over the contacts a few times recently to make sure nothing was dirty.

3. Yes, when it was sending scratchy dits it did require adjusting the dit stop screw.

4. I checked all base screws, they were tight.

5. The silver contacts on both sides of the dit connection feel solid.

I made a few adjustments based on Dave, N1EA's document. I had it set up for a pretty wide spacing, which is not my preference but I was hesitant to tighten it down until it began to behave itself. So, I bit the bullet and adjusted it down for a small travel on the dits and dahs.

Upon very close inspection it looked as though the pendulum arm was not always contacting the damper during sending. I had it set to just *BARELY* rest against the damper. I added a bit more resting force and now it looks like it reliably touches the damper.

I also loosened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot spring. Based on the lack of a grounding braid, I wanted to make sure there wasn't any corrosion making a poor contact.

After doing these 3 things, it is working much better. It will hold the settings, and perhaps only one dot in ten or fifteen is scratchy. It will make about 30 or so before coming to rest fully closed, and it comes to rest fully closed at both the slowest weight setting and the fastest. I have it set for a somewhat heavy dot at the slowest speed, and it's OK at the highest, though a tad light.

I re-read the posts and realize I forgot to look at the Dot tension spring - I never paid much attention to it on the others, but now I see on this new Blue Racer it is part of the electrical path. I'm going to go over that carefully tonight.

Thanks to all for the guidance - it has been a great help!

73 de Chuck, WS1L

--

```
===================
Chuck Chandler
chandlerusm@...
===================
```

# 1792. Re: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 21:16:55 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1791  Message: 1792

Sorry, but I didn't pick up on your original post.

Scratchy dits are one thing, and split dits another, with different causes.

Scratchy dits; modern solid state radios are able to try to follow the scratchiness of the one contact being drawn across the other.

Contacts should be polished, not burnished with a vibroplex tool. Polish them on a polishing wheel, make them mirror shiny and both convex. This will most reduce the problem itself.

however, you can also help yourself in either of these two ways...

1) try putting a 1 PF cap across the contacts. The loading of the capacitor will bridge the scratchiness of the contacts sliding over the face of each other.

2) Key a mercury wetted relay. The relay is not fast enough to follow the scratchiness, and just makes contact for the duration which is then used to key the rig.

Have fun with your bug.

73, Fred - KT5X

cwops # 058

www.KT5X.com for key collection
----- Original Message -----
From: Chuck Chandler
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 12:36 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer update

Well, I had a chance this morning to try out a few things. In no particular order these are my notes on suggestions from the list - I apologize if I overlooked something, but I think I've got them all.

1. The dot spring (metal u-shaped leaf spring) appears to be roughly the same stiffness as my two others. It's much newer, maybe it's a tad stiffer.

2. I have the Vibroplex burnishing strip, and have gone over the contacts a few times recently to make sure nothing was dirty.

3. Yes, when it was sending scratchy dits it did require adjusting the dit stop screw.

4. I checked all base screws, they were tight.

5. The silver contacts on both sides of the dit connection feel solid.

I made a few adjustments based on Dave, N1EA's document. I had it set up for a pretty wide spacing, which is not my preference but I was hesitant to tighten it down until it began to behave itself. So, I bit the bullet and adjusted it down for a small travel on the dits and dahs.

Upon very close inspection it looked as though the pendulum arm was not always contacting the damper during sending. I had it set to just *BARELY* rest against the damper. I added a bit more resting force and now it looks like it reliably touches the damper.

I also loosened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot spring. Based on the lack of a grounding braid, I wanted to make sure there wasn't any corrosion making a poor contact.

After doing these 3 things, it is working much better. It will hold the settings, and perhaps only one dot in ten or fifteen is scratchy. It will make about 30 or so before coming to rest fully closed, and it comes to rest fully closed at both the slowest weight setting and the fastest. I have it set for a somewhat heavy dot at the slowest speed, and it's OK at the highest, though a tad light.

I re-read the posts and realize I forgot to look at the Dot tension spring - I never paid much attention to it on the others, but now I see on this new Blue Racer it is part of the electrical path. I'm going to go over that carefully tonight.

Thanks to all for the guidance - it has been a great help!

73 de Chuck, WS1L

--

==========
Chuck Chandler
chandlerusm@...
==========

# 1793. Re: Blue Racer update N1EA Tips and Pointers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 19:42:57 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1791  Message: 1793

I consider myself a bug man but...I've never had to operate one when it HAD to be done!
Some of the best advice I've received on bug operating has come from David, N1EA. The piece of advice he gave me that cured my "scratch" dots was to add tension to the dot spring.
Sounds so simple.....yet great results.
We have a great resource in this "old timer" and my advice is, despite what your instincts tell you, TRY HIS ADVICE FIRST. It could vastly improve your "wheel invention" average. :-)
Take it from one who took a while to get it.
If you can swing it, get on the air with David and you will be surprised how quickly he can diagnose your bug's issues and prescribe a cure.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Chuck Chandler <chandlerusm@...> wrote:
>
> Well, I had a chance this morning to try out a few things. In no
> particular order these are my notes on suggestions from the list - I
> apologize if I overlooked something, but I think I've got them all.
>
> 1. The dot spring (metal u-shaped leaf spring) appears to be roughly the
> same stiffness as my two others. It's much newer, maybe it's a tad stiffer.
>
> 2. I have the Vibroplex burnishing strip, and have gone over the contacts a
> few times recently to make sure nothing was dirty.
>
> 3. Yes, when it was sending scratchy dits it did require adjusting the dit
> stop screw.
>
> 4. I checked all base screws, they were tight.
>
> 5. The silver contacts on both sides of the dit connection feel solid.
>
> I made a few adjustments based on Dave, N1EA's document. I had it set up
> for a pretty wide spacing, which is not my preference but I was hesitant to
> tighten it down until it began to behave itself. So, I bit the bullet and
> adjusted it down for a small travel on the dits and dahs.
>
> Upon very close inspection it looked as though the pendulum arm was not
> always contacting the damper during sending. I had it set to just *BARELY*
> rest against the damper. I added a bit more resting force and now it looks
> like it reliably touches the damper.
>
> I also loosened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot
> spring. Based on the lack of a grounding braid, I wanted to make sure there
> wasn't any corrosion making a poor contact.
>
> After doing these 3 things, it is working much better. It will hold the

> settings, and perhaps only one dot in ten or fifteen is scratchy. It will
> make about 30 or so before coming to rest fully closed, and it comes to
> rest fully closed at both the slowest weight setting and the fastest. I
> have it set for a somewhat heavy dot at the slowest speed, and it's OK at
> the highest, though a tad light.
>
> I re-read the posts and realize I forgot to look at the Dot tension spring
> - I never paid much attention to it on the others, but now I see on this
> new Blue Racer it is part of the electrical path. I'm going to go over
> that carefully tonight.
>
>
> Thanks to all for the guidance - it has been a great help!
>
> 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@...
> ==========
>

# 1794. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Blue Racer update N1EA Tips and Pointers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 21:34:39 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1791  Message: 1794

Milt:
I have done that many times by using a tiny piece of foam wedged back into
the inside of the dit springs U bend.

Donnie
On Jun 27, 2012 5:25 PM, "k4oso" <k4oso@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> I consider myself a bug man but...I've never had to operate one when it
> HAD to be done! Some of the best advice I've received on bug operating has
> come from David, N1EA. The piece of advice he gave me that cured my
> "scratch" dots was to add tension to the dot spring. Sounds so
> simple.....yet great results.
> We have a great resource in this "old timer" and my advice is, despite
> what your instincts tell you, TRY HIS ADVICE FIRST. It could vastly improve
> your "wheel invention" average. :-) Take it from one who took a while to
> get it.
> If you can swing it, get on the air with David and you will be surprised
> how quickly he can diagnose your bug's issues and prescribe a cure.
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Chuck Chandler <chandlerusm@...> wrote:
> >
> > Well, I had a chance this morning to try out a few things. In no
> > particular order these are my notes on suggestions from the list - I
> > apologize if I overlooked something, but I think I've got them all.
> >
> > 1. The dot spring (metal u-shaped leaf spring) appears to be roughly the
> > same stiffness as my two others. It's much newer, maybe it's a tad
> stiffer.
> >
> > 2. I have the Vibroplex burnishing strip, and have gone over the
> contacts a
> > few times recently to make sure nothing was dirty.
> >
> > 3. Yes, when it was sending scratchy dits it did require adjusting the
> dit
> > stop screw.
> >
> > 4. I checked all base screws, they were tight.
> >
> > 5. The silver contacts on both sides of the dit connection feel solid.
> >

> > I made a few adjustments based on Dave, N1EA's document. I had it set up
> > for a pretty wide spacing, which is not my preference but I was hesitant
> to
> > tighten it down until it began to behave itself. So, I bit the bullet and
> > adjusted it down for a small travel on the dits and dahs.
> >
> > Upon very close inspection it looked as though the pendulum arm was not
> > always contacting the damper during sending. I had it set to just
> *BARELY*
> > rest against the damper. I added a bit more resting force and now it
> looks
> > like it reliably touches the damper.
> >
> > I also loosened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot
> > spring. Based on the lack of a grounding braid, I wanted to make sure
> there
> > wasn't any corrosion making a poor contact.
> >
> > After doing these 3 things, it is working much better. It will hold the
> > settings, and perhaps only one dot in ten or fifteen is scratchy. It will
> > make about 30 or so before coming to rest fully closed, and it comes to
> > rest fully closed at both the slowest weight setting and the fastest. I
> > have it set for a somewhat heavy dot at the slowest speed, and it's OK at
> > the highest, though a tad light.
> >
> > I re-read the posts and realize I forgot to look at the Dot tension
> spring
> > - I never paid much attention to it on the others, but now I see on this
> > new Blue Racer it is part of the electrical path. I'm going to go over
> > that carefully tonight.
> >
> >
> > Thanks to all for the guidance - it has been a great help!
> >
> > 73 de Chuck, WS1L
> >
> >
> > --
> >
> >
> > ==========
> > Chuck Chandler
> > chandlerusm@...
> > ==========
> >
>
>
>

# 1795. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Blue Racer update N1EA Tips and Pointers

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 21:37:47 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1791  Message: 1795

This cures split dits, which is different from sratchy dits which I spoke to a moment ago.

A dit spring that is weak will produce split dits, and dit bounce. McElroy had a dit tensioner on some of his bugs to load the spring. Another way to do it, is to stick a small piece of foam in the curvature of the dit spring.

But understand, that will fix split dits and contact bounce, while the capcitor across the bug or keying a relay will cure contact scratchiness.

Dave, N1EA, is "the man" ;-)

fd - kt5x
----- Original Message -----
From: k4oso
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 1:42 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Blue Racer update N1EA Tips and Pointers

I consider myself a bug man but...I've never had to operate one when it HAD to be done!
Some of the best advice I've received on bug operating has come from David, N1EA. The piece of advice he gave me that cured my "scratch" dots was to add tension to the dot spring.
Sounds so simple.....yet great results.
We have a great resource in this "old timer" and my advice is, despite what your instincts tell you, TRY HIS ADVICE FIRST. It could vastly improve your "wheel invention" average. :-)
Take it from one who took a while to get it.
If you can swing it, get on the air with David and you will be surprised how quickly he can diagnose your bug's issues and prescribe a cure.
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, Chuck Chandler <chandlerusm@...> wrote:
>
> Well, I had a chance this morning to try out a few things. In no
> particular order these are my notes on suggestions from the list - I
> apologize if I overlooked something, but I think I've got them all.
>
> 1. The dot spring (metal u-shaped leaf spring) appears to be roughly the
> same stiffness as my two others. It's much newer, maybe it's a tad stiffer.
>
> 2. I have the Vibroplex burnishing strip, and have gone over the contacts a
> few times recently to make sure nothing was dirty.
>
> 3. Yes, when it was sending scratchy dits it did require adjusting the dit
> stop screw.
>
> 4. I checked all base screws, they were tight.
>

> 5. The silver contacts on both sides of the dit connection feel solid.
>
> I made a few adjustments based on Dave, N1EA's document. I had it set up
> for a pretty wide spacing, which is not my preference but I was hesitant to
> tighten it down until it began to behave itself. So, I bit the bullet and
> adjusted it down for a small travel on the dits and dahs.
>
> Upon very close inspection it looked as though the pendulum arm was not
> always contacting the damper during sending. I had it set to just *BARELY*
> rest against the damper. I added a bit more resting force and now it looks
> like it reliably touches the damper.
>
> I also loosened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot
> spring. Based on the lack of a grounding braid, I wanted to make sure there
> wasn't any corrosion making a poor contact.
>
> After doing these 3 things, it is working much better. It will hold the
> settings, and perhaps only one dot in ten or fifteen is scratchy. It will
> make about 30 or so before coming to rest fully closed, and it comes to
> rest fully closed at both the slowest weight setting and the fastest. I
> have it set for a somewhat heavy dot at the slowest speed, and it's OK at
> the highest, though a tad light.
>
> I re-read the posts and realize I forgot to look at the Dot tension spring
> - I never paid much attention to it on the others, but now I see on this
> new Blue Racer it is part of the electrical path. I'm going to go over
> that carefully tonight.
>
>
> Thanks to all for the guidance - it has been a great help!
>
> 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@...
> ==========
>

# 1796. Re: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-27 23:00:14 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1791 Message: 1796

I find a conflict in your statement, Fred.

Here is the definition of burnish, burnishing.

Definition of /BURNISH/

transitive verb

1: /a: /to make shiny or lustrous especially by rubbing /b/ : polish

2: to rub (a material) with a tool for compacting or smoothing or for turning an edge

--- bur?nish?er /noun/

--- bur?nish?ing /adjective or noun/

/bur?nish//?b?rniSH/

Verb: Polish (something, esp. metal) by rubbing: "burnished armor".

Noun: The shine on a highly polished surface.

Synonyms: /verb/. polish - furbish - buff - gloss - glaze

/noun/. polish - sheen - gloss - lustre -- luster

Burnishing is the*plastic deformation* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deformation_%28engineering%29> of a surface due to sliding contact with another object. Visually, burnishing smears the texture of a rough surface and makes it shinier.

Burnishing may occur on any sliding surface if the contact stress locally exceeds the yield strength of the material.

Proper burnishing IS polishing. There are a couple of inherit problems out there. Not all so called burnishing tools are that. A proper burnishing tool is
a metal blade that is covered with a fine (flour) diamond surface. It is for the purpose of polish a surface, no filing it. It can be used in different ways.
A burnishing tool can be used to polish an arbour/pivot and if done correctly it will harden the surface in the process. That can or cannot be desired,
depending on the application of the pivot.

All so called burnishing tools are not that, but a instead are a piece of metal that has been knurled, i.e. more like a file. Not as good as a true burnishing

tool. Also, the proper application of a burnishing tool is not. As defined, it is to polish and the pressure is ever so light. A properly burnished surface is
mirror-like.

A proper burnishing tool could be assigned a grit number of 2000 or higher.

Burnishing moves the material about, not removing it. If you are reshaping the contact, giving it a dome, it takes a lot of working with burnishing, because
if you go too fast, the surface is hardened and the moving of metal will stop.

I suspect your experience with burnishing may have involved poor or pseudo burnishing tools. When I place a burnishing tool on or between contacts,
the pressure is not high. It should remove soft, relatively, crud as it polished the contacts metal surface. I clean my burnishing tools with alcohol before
and after each use so i am not depositing crud I may have picked up from another contact or my finger even.

Sorry to disagree, only in part, Fred.

On 6/27/2012 4:16 PM, cloud runner wrote:
> Contacts should be polished, not burnished with a vibroplex tool.
> Polish them on a polishing wheel, make them mirror shiny and both
> convex. This will most reduce the problem itself.

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1797. Blue Racer - modern version - update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 12:18:33 UTC
From: Chuck Chandler
Topic: 1797  Message: 1797

Again, many thanks for the help of the listmembers. I appear to have resolved the issue. First, let me reply to a few points.

This is a new version Blue Racer, essentially a standard on a narrow base, without a shorting bar.

The Vibroplex burnishing tool is a narrow strip of fine emory-like cloth. It's a tool in an anthropological sense (think a monkey poking a stick into an antheap) rather than in a Tim Allen sense. Does it do any better than plain paper or a business card? I dunno, but it on their website and I paid like $4 for it, so I'm using it. I doubt it does anything more than the old methods.

I do have a small capacitor across the contacts - I have one installed inside the plug housing on all my bugs. The modern rigs like it, and the tube rig doesn't seem to mind it at all. It's a really neat trick.

So, to the fix. The fact that this versions is missing the braided wire some have (as someone here pointed out) led me to look at simple continuity issues. When I loosened, moved, and re-tightened the screw holding the donut-shaped mount for the dot leaf spring on the pendulum arm, that helped quite a bit. A small bit of corrosion may have been making a poor path. Cleaning that almost, but not entirely, eliminated the scratchy dots.

The other dot spring, the coil-type tension spring, was also loose. Is this a part of the electrical path? I haven't bothered to trace it out yet, and I'm running late for work, but moving that with my finger created scratchy dots. I tightened it down a good bit, compressing it to roughly half what it was, then wriggled the small piece that goes into the pendulum arm to capture it. That seems, so far, to have eliminated the issue entirely.

So far a couple of QSOs have shown the only errors are those of my own making.

Again, thanks to the listmembers for help. I would have floundered around for who knows how long without you all.

vy 73 de Chuck, WS1L

--

==========
Chuck Chandler
chandlerusm@...
==========

# 1798. Re: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer - modern version - update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 13:16:02 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1797  Message: 1798

Hello Chuck,

To answer your question, I will quote from my message to this group in
response to your request for help:

Now the ONLY connection is the *dot tension spring*. Make sure you have
> sufficient tension on the spring to avoid loss of continuity.

I have made the significant words bold.

Yes the coil dot tension spring is the only ground return path now.

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join
CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic
Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:*
gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/<gopher://sdf.org/0/users/djringjr/>
(native
or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Thu, Jun 28, 2012 at 8:18 AM, Chuck Chandler <chandlerusm@...>wrote:

>
>
> Again, many thanks for the help of the listmembers. I appear to have
> resolved the issue. First, let me reply to a few points.
>
> This is a new version Blue Racer, essentially a standard on a narrow base,
> without a shorting bar.
>
> The Vibroplex burnishing tool is a narrow strip of fine emory-like cloth.
> It's a tool in an anthropological sense (think a monkey poking a stick
> into an antheap) rather than in a Tim Allen sense. Does it do any better
> than plain paper or a business card? I dunno, but it on their website and
> I paid like $4 for it, so I'm using it. I doubt it does anything more than
> the old methods.
>
> I do have a small capacitor across the contacts - I have one installed
> inside the plug housing on all my bugs. The modern rigs like it, and the
> tube rig doesn't seem to mind it at all. It's a really neat trick.
>

>
> So, to the fix. The fact that this versions is missing the braided wire
> some have (as someone here pointed out) led me to look at simple continuity
> issues. When I loosened, moved, and re-tightened the screw holding the
> donut-shaped mount for the dot leaf spring on the pendulum arm, that helped
> quite a bit. A small bit of corrosion may have been making a poor path.
> Cleaning that almost, but not entirely, eliminated the scratchy dots.
>
> The other dot spring, the coil-type tension spring, was also loose. Is
> this a part of the electrical path? I haven't bothered to trace it out
> yet, and I'm running late for work, but moving that with my finger created
> scratchy dots. I tightened it down a good bit, compressing it to roughly
> half what it was, then wriggled the small piece that goes into the pendulum
> arm to capture it. That seems, so far, to have eliminated the issue
> entirely.
>
> So far a couple of QSOs have shown the only errors are those of my own
> making.
>
> Again, thanks to the listmembers for help. I would have floundered around
> for who knows how long without you all.
>
> vy 73 de Chuck, WS1L
>
> --
>
>
> ==========
> Chuck Chandler
> chandlerusm@...
> ==========
>
>
>
>

# 1799. Interesting Article..

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 16:06:07 UTC
From: ve6cpp
Topic: 1799  Message: 1799

Quite Lengthy..but very interesting reading ! Not sure if you Rx e-mail from the site I Rx it from...if so, my apologies !
Jerry
VE6CPP

Excellent Document on Mitigation of Noise from External
Sources

http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/TR/2007/NPS-EC-07-002.pdf.

73,
Phil K3TUF

# 1800. Re: Interesting Article..

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 17:16:29 UTC
From: ve6cpp
Topic: 1799  Message: 1800

If that URL does not work.. Article also availabe at :

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/pdf/ExternalNoiseHandbook.pdf
and here:
http://nk7z.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/The-Mitigation-of-Radio-Noise-from-External-Sources-at-Radio-Receiving-Sites.pdf

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "ve6cpp" <jer.sieg@...> wrote:
>
> Quite Lengthy..but very interesting reading ! Not sure if you Rx e-mail from the site I Rx it from...if so, my apologies !
> Jerry
> VE6CPP
>
> Excellent Document on Mitigation of Noise from External
> Sources
>
> http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/TR/2007/NPS-EC-07-002.pdf.
>
> 73,
> Phil K3TUF
>

# 1801. Re: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer - modern version - update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 18:10:58 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1797 Message: 1801

Great, Chuck.

On 6/28/2012 7:18 AM, Chuck Chandler wrote:
> This is a new version Blue Racer, essentially a standard on a narrow
> base, without a shorting bar.
I missed that this was a 'new version' BR, but is it a Deluxe, chrome
base with jeweled pivot? See below.
>
> The Vibroplex burnishing tool is a narrow strip of fine emory-like
> cloth. It's a tool in an anthropological sense (think a monkey poking
> a stick into an antheap) rather than in a Tim Allen sense. Does it do
> any better than plain paper or a business card? I dunno, but it on
> their website and I paid like $4 for it, so I'm using it. I doubt it
> does anything more than the old methods.
The burnishing tool should be, a good one, with a very fine (flour)
coating of diamond to polish (burnish) a contact. The paper, with or
without alcohol will also, but to a lesser
degree and all will also clean dirt off. It is a whole study of how
contacts works and how they fail to work correctly. I spent way too may
hours while in the US Air Force cleaning,
polishing, replacing and adjusting, including setting tensions of relay
contacts in an automatic Teletype switching center, W/U Plan 55.
Probably why my eyes or going.
>
> I do have a small capacitor across the contacts - I have one installed
> inside the plug housing on all my bugs. The modern rigs like it, and
> the tube rig doesn't seem to mind it at all. It's a really neat trick.
This does well and covers for minute contact irregularities. A good
contact debounce circuit does even better.
>
> The other dot spring, the coil-type tension spring, was also loose.
> Is this a part of the electrical path? I haven't bothered to trace
> it out yet, and I'm running late for work, but moving that with my
> finger created scratchy dots. I tightened it down a good bit,
> compressing it to roughly half what it was, then wriggled the small
> piece that goes into the pendulum arm to capture it. That seems, so
> far, to have eliminated the issue entirely.
The key's pendulum is basically a grounding bar. When you press on the
dash knob, you are pressing the dash contact to the dash post contact
which is connected to your
keying line. When you press the paddle and it strikes its stop, the bar
vibrates and the dot spring contact bonces on the dot post contact which
is also connected to you keying
line. Both of the post contacts are fairly stable connections. Where
irregularities come in is with continuity to the ground side of the

keying line and the lever bar and its two
contacts. As you found, the dot spring contact was loose on the bar.
Poor connection. The dot return spring, particularly on the jewel
pivoted Deluxe without the ground braid
wire provides the ground connection for the bar. (Thanks, DR. I did not
realize they stopped putting the braid on late models.) On none-Deluxe
models, the arbor/pivot pin
is held between two grounded pivot seats. Dirt in these seats as DR
pointed out causes a poor or irregular connection to ground.

I am very glad you have it working well now, Chuck. Have fun.

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket
cases to restore.

# 1802. Re: [cw_bugs] Blue Racer - modern version - update

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 18:17:48 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1797  Message: 1802

Chuck:
Glad you were able to get the problem resolved. That's one of the great things about this group, you always get lots of help and suggestions with a problem.

Regards, Donnie
On Jun 28, 2012 8:18 AM, "Chuck Chandler" <chandlerusm@...> wrote:

# 1803. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Interesting Article..

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-06-28 18:52:01 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1799  Message: 1803

Yes, the first did not work, but this one did. A quick perusal and it
looks very interesting, Jerry. Thank you.
I have a very bad noise in Belize and maybe I can find a source with
this help. It is almost like a switching power
supply noise, but it is throughout the village! I am suspecting the
telephone company's line amplifiers have a
switching supply in them, but....

On 6/28/2012 12:16 PM, ve6cpp wrote:
> If that URL does not work.. Article also availabe at :
>
> http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/pdf/ExternalNoiseHandbook.pdf

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket
cases to restore.

# 1804. stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-13 17:07:28 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1804  Message: 1804

Is anyone familiar with the phrase "stone fist" and its definition ? It is stuck in my little head, but lacking an association.
Steve, NU7T

# 1805. Re: [cw_bugs] stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-14 23:03:14 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1804  Message: 1805

I don't recall 'Stone fist", Steve, but a glass fists was often used in
the days gone past.
It usually referred to a fists where the length of dits and dahs were
too close to the same length,
but I am sure the description varied from area to area.

73, Joe, V31JP

On 7/13/2012 12:07 PM, Steve wrote:
>
> Is anyone familiar with the phrase "stone fist" and its definition ?
> It is stuck in my little head, but lacking an association.
> Steve, NU7T
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket
cases to restore.

# 1806. Re: [cw_bugs] stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-14 23:12:55 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1804  Message: 1806

How about Carpal Tunnel!
On Jul 13, 2012 1:07 PM, "Steve" <nu7t@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Is anyone familiar with the phrase "stone fist" and its definition ? It is
> stuck in my little head, but lacking an association.
> Steve, NU7T
>
>
>

# 1807. Re: [cw_bugs] stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-14 23:37:25 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1804  Message: 1807

Joe,

Thank you for the reply to a "stone fist" and the definition of a "glass fist".
Good luck and Good DX.
Steve, NU7T

# 1808. Re: [cw_bugs] stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-14 23:43:21 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1804  Message: 1808

Donnie,
Carpal Tunnel is "glass arm". My wife had that problem.
Her company brought in an
"Ergonomist" to rearrange her work place. The new arrangement provided
some relief.
Thanks for the suggestion.
Steve, NU7T

On Sat, 14 Jul 2012 19:12:55 -0400, Donnie wrote:
> How about Carpal Tunnel!
> On Jul 13, 2012 1:07 PM, "Steve" wrote:

# 1809. Re: [cw_bugs] stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-14 23:50:48 UTC
From: Donnie
Topic: 1804  Message: 1809

Interesting Steve.

Donnie
On Jul 14, 2012 7:43 PM, "Steve" <nu7t@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Donnie,
> Carpal Tunnel is "glass arm". My wife had that problem.
> Her company brought in an
> "Ergonomist" to rearrange her work place. The new arrangement provided
> some relief.
> Thanks for the suggestion.
> Steve, NU7T
>
> On Sat, 14 Jul 2012 19:12:55 -0400, Donnie wrote:
> > How about Carpal Tunnel!
> > On Jul 13, 2012 1:07 PM, "Steve" wrote:
>
>
>

# 1810. Re: stone fist

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-15 12:20:57 UTC
From: Tom Warren
Topic: 1804  Message: 1810

I remember the term "Glass Arm" and used to get it every once in a while as
a novice during one of my "all nighters". My arm used to seem to stiffen up
to the point it hurt to hold my arm up in a position to send on my straight key.

Just another reason to go to the Bug. ;0)

73
Tom
W4TMW

# 1811. July RFTB tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-15 19:40:14 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1811  Message: 1811

This kind of snuck up on me as July 1st was a Sunday, so .....

Tonight happens to be the July 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon (this being the third Sunday of the month and all!). That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1812. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-07-17 01:22:18 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1812

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 18, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday July 19, 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201207.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1813. Skeeter Hunt today!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-08-12 12:03:52 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1813  Message: 1813

The First Annual NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is this afternoon!

123 Skeeter numbers have been issued - so there will be lots o' Skeeters to swat at today!

If you don't have anumber, don't let that stop you from getting on the air and joining in on the fun.

All details are at:

http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

72 de Larry W2LJ

Get on and join us and have fun!

# 1814. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-08-12 14:24:42 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1814

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our August sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (August 14, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday August 15, 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201208.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1815. Skeeter logs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-08-15 01:14:31 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1815  Message: 1815

The first logs for the Skeeter Hunt held last Sunday have started to trickle in - 25 so far.

I know there were a lot of you out there operating. Don't be shy about sending your results in!

Full logs (adif and cabrillo files) are not necessary. The following is more than enough:

Name
Call
Skeeter number (if you had one)
Number of Skeeter QSOs
Number of Non- Skeeter QSOs.
Number of S/P/Cs that you worked on all bands. If you worked GA on 20 and 40 it ocunts twice, for example.
Your station class multipler:
X1 Home stations - commercial equipment
X2 Home stations - home brewed or kit built equipment
X3 Portable station - commercial equipment
X4 Portable station - home brewed or kit built equipment
And whether or not you're claiming the homebrewed key bonus of 1,000 points. Remember, the key has to have been built specifically for the Skeeter Hunt and you have to send me a picture.

All soapbox comments and phots will be posted.

Deadline for submissions is September 12th (30 days) but avoid the rush and send youe score early to w2lj@...

Thanks es 73!
Larry W2LJ

# 1816. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-08-18 21:25:56 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1816

Wow! Summer is flying by - only another month left. This Sunday is the 3rd one of this month, so you know what that means! The August 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1817. Home-brewed bug key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-15 13:05:26 UTC
From: gareth evans
Topic: 1817  Message: 1817

Hi,
I am the webmaster for my local model engineering society, and when the members give me nothing for the web site, I (mis)use the blog for my own ends.

If you go to www.wwsme.org.uk and look at the Blog, a page or so down are some photos of my homebrewed bug key, for the design of which I cribbed the dimensions from a Vibroplex loaned by a local Ham.

It has since had a varnished wooden frame added to hide the imperfections in my shaping of the marble slab (I don't have the time to serve an apprenticeship as a trainee stone mason)

As you will note, I have brought the paddles down to desk height for personal comfort in using it.

73 de Gareth G4SDW

# 1818. Re: Home-brewed bug key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-15 13:53:55 UTC
From: georose
Topic: 1817  Message: 1818

I like it!
==========
--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, gareth evans <headstone_255@...> wrote:
>
> Hi,
> I am the webmaster for my local model engineering society, and
> when the members give me nothing for the web site, I (mis)use
> the blog for my own ends.
>
> If you go to www.wwsme.org.uk and look at the Blog, a page or
> so down are some photos of my homebrewed bug key, for the design
> of which I cribbed the dimensions from a Vibroplex loaned by
> a local Ham.
>
> It has since had a varnished wooden frame added to hide the
> imperfections in my shaping of the marble slab (I don't have the
> time to serve an apprenticeship as a trainee stone mason)
>
> As you will note, I have brought the paddles down to desk height
> for personal comfort in using it.
>
> 73 de Gareth G4SDW
>

# 1819. 1909 Mecograph & Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-16 19:19:43 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 1819  Message: 1819
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi guys.
Just restored a 1909 Mecograph and it works fine !!!!

Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZaZcYRDPLY&feature=youtu.be

See you on air.

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy

---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

# 1820. Re: [cw_bugs] 1909 Mecograph & Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-16 19:40:20 UTC
From: George
Topic: 1819  Message: 1820
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Fabio,
Nice job.
73, George W2GS
On 9/16/2012 2:19 PM, Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI wrote:
>
> Hi guys.
> Just restored a 1909 Mecograph and it works fine !!!!
> Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZaZcYRDPLY&feature=youtu.be
> See you on air.
> 161 de Fabio Bonucci, IK?IXI
> (also KF1B)
> "Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
> _____
> INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 -
> MF-RUNDE 1047
> ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013
> - AGCW 3560
>
>

# 1821. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-16 20:13:01 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1821

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our September sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (September 19, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday September 20, 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201209.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX. A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Finally there is one more award - a certificate to the highest score from a first-time participant.

Prizes: A prize of a set of bug/paddle handles or a K1/K2 knob insert donated by master woodworker Gregg WB8LZG is awarded for each sprint to the winner of a random drawing among all participants. Previous winners are not eligible.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6230+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

# 1822. Re: [cw_bugs] 1909 Mecograph & Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-16 21:02:31 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1819  Message: 1822
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Beautiful restoration, Fabio! Also, very FB fist.
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 12:19 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] 1909 Mecograph & Video

Hi guys.
Just restored a 1909 Mecograph and it works fine !!!!

Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZaZcYRDPLY&feature=youtu.be

See you on air.

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

# 1823. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-17 03:10:24 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1823

Bill,

I finally seen the screw you are talking about. On some speed keys, it
was a way to fix the height of the pendulum. there are press fit arbours,
there are captured arbours (sandwiched between between two pieces) and
some used such a screw, either directly into the arbour or set with
a grazing, but capturing position. I cannot find my reference as to
when Vibroplex used that method and discontinued using it.

Sorry if this was answered before. I am search for some e-mails and
cleaning up/out others.

On 6/13/2012 12:37 PM, William Schmidt wrote:
>
> It's on the views marked "partial view". On the Frattini j36 is an
> allen wrench adjustment but I've seen regular slotted screws on
> vibroplexes.
>
> ---
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: n1ea@...
> Date: Wed, 13 Jun 2012 11:59:10 -0400
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question
>
>
> Tell us where you can see this screw. I don't see it.
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
> DR
>
> =30=
>
>
>
> On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...
> <mailto:fretjock@...>> wrote:
>
> On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw
> just distal to the dash tension spring. It's presence is not
> noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex
> site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also
> present on the Frattini J38 reproduction. Does anyone know it's
> purpose?
> Bill/wv1n
>
>
>

> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>
>
>
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1824. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-17 03:45:27 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1763  Message: 1824

I have several Vibroplex keys.  The only one with this screw is the only one with jeweled bearings.  Perhaps there is a connection.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

_____
From: Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, September 16, 2012 10:10 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Bill,

I finally seen the screw you are talking about.  On some speed keys,
it was a way to fix the height of the pendulum.  there are press fit
arbours,
there are captured arbours (sandwiched between between two pieces)
and some used such a screw, either directly into the arbour or set
with
a grazing, but capturing position.  I cannot find my reference as to
when Vibroplex used that method and discontinued using it.

Sorry if this was answered before. I am search for some e-mails and
cleaning up/out others.

On 6/13/2012 12:37 PM, William Schmidt wrote:

>It's on the views marked "partial view".  On the Frattini j36 is an allen wrench
adjustment but I've seen regular slotted screws on vibroplexes.
>
>
>
>_____
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>From: n1ea@...
>Date: Wed, 13 Jun 2012 11:59:10 -0400
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question
>
>
>
>
>Tell us where you can see this screw.  I don't see it.http://www.i1qod.it/j36basenera.htm
>
>DR
>
>=30=

>
>
>
>
>On Wed, Jun 13, 2012 at 9:38 AM, William <fretjock@...> wrote:
>
>On several, but not all, lightning bugs I noticed a small screw just distal to the dash tension spring.  It's presence is not noted on the lightning machine drawing located on the vibroplex site but I have seen it on several ebay pictures and it is also present on the Frattini J38 reproduction.  Does anyone know it's purpose?
>>Bill/wv1n
>>
>>
>>
>>------------------------------------
>>
>>Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1825. Re: [cw_bugs] Lightning bug question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-17 04:12:25 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1763  Message: 1825

My Vibroplex Champion, 1952 has the capture screw for the arbour or trunion pin. It is an slotted oval head screw that is in the dot bar. All of my other keys here are press fit, from the 1913, 1920, 1928, a friends 1945 to my 1991 original.

The Deluxe had a fillister head screw that captured a small ring lug on a ground wire. That ground wire went down to a screw on the bottom back side of the yoke. Because the Deluxe had a jewelled bearing, the trunion could not supply ground to the dot and dash bars, thus no ground to the dot or dash contacts when they were closed.

But the screw that Bill asked about, I saw it on the Italian bug and it is a hex set screw and some Vibroplex had the screw in nearly the same spot for locking the dot bar's height. I did not even realize my '52 Champion had it until I just looked at all my keys here in Texas.

If you look at the parts list for an Original, Part# O-29 or 1005 is for a trunion lock screw, but you will not find it in the machine drawing. Same with the Champion, except it part number C-26 or 1005.

On 9/16/2012 10:45 PM, WILLIS COOKE wrote:
> I have several Vibroplex keys. The only one with this screw is the
> only one with jeweled bearings. Perhaps there is a connection.
> Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
> K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1826. Re: [cw_bugs] 1909 Mecograph & Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-18 01:22:59 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1819  Message: 1826

Very nice work, Fabio!

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

"Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI" <colt45auto@...> wrote:

>Hi guys.
>Just restored a 1909 Mecograph and it works fine !!!!
>
>
>
>
>Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZaZcYRDPLY&feature=youtu.be
>
>See you on air.
>
>161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
>(also KF1B)
>
>"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
>_____
>INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE
>1047
>ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 -
>AGCW 3560
>
>
>

--
Sent from my Android phone with K-9 Mail. Please excuse my brevity.

# 1827. Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 06:01:09 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 1827  Message: 1827
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

HI.
I purchased this McElroy 1938B De Luxe last week here in Italy.
The finish De Luxe should be "marble" (I own another 38B De Luxe model with that famous base paint), but this one has chromed base.
McElroy MFG. Co. never offered chromed Mac Keys (according to W1IMQ's book and others); perhaps this key is a "special order" or it was chromed at some point of its life by one of the previous owners.
Nobody knows the truth....but it looks good and works fine !!

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

# 1828. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 07:34:20 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1827  Message: 1828
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello Fabio,

Nice key.

I don't know when chrome became available to the masses. Vibroplex started chroming parts right before WW2 - 1940s.

I have heard that chrome parts started in automobiles in 1920s.

Even if it is not authentic, it is a beautiful key.

I do love the marbelite finish though.

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 2:01 AM, Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI <colt45auto@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> HI.
> I purchased this McElroy 1938B De Luxe last week here in Italy.
> The finish De Luxe should be "marble" (I own another 38B De Luxe model
> with that famous base paint), but this one has chromed base.
> McElroy MFG. Co. never offered chromed Mac Keys (according to W1IMQ's book
> and others); perhaps this key is a "special order" or it was chromed at
> some point of its life by one of the previous owners.
> Nobody knows the truth....but it looks good and works fine !!
>
>
> 161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
> (also KF1B)
>
> "Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
> _____

> INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE
> 1047
> ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 -
> AGCW 3560
>
>
>
>
>

# 1829. RE: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 08:48:58 UTC
From: John Davies
Topic: 1827  Message: 1829
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Yes a beautiful work of art.

They don't make 'em like that nowadays. The best bug maker today is Vizkey in my humble opinion. I have both the right-angle and vertical versions.

Or you could cheat, like I sometimes do, and use a single lever paddle hooked up to a JA3KAB bug circuit. It generates perfect dits on the thumb side and manual dahs on the finger side. Also, the spaces between the dits and dahs are perfectly controlled.

I don't usually admit to it but there you have it.

David, you were mentioned in dispatches by Steve N6TT who I often work. Pity you and I never QSO'd. Your part of USA is hard from here. Although there have been some openings around 1600z on 12m lately.

John 9V1VV

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: n1ea@...
Date: Thu, 27 Sep 2012 03:34:20 -0400
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Hello Fabio,
Nice key.
I don't know when chrome became available to the masses. Vibroplex started chroming parts right before WW2 - 1940s.
I have heard that chrome parts started in automobiles in 1920s.

Even if it is not authentic, it is a beautiful key.
I do love the marbelite finish though.
73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA Radio-Officers Group -- Join CW email list -- Historic Morse Recordings

Gopher Hole: gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway

Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Thu, Sep 27, 2012 at 2:01 AM, Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI <colt45auto@virgilio.it> wrote:

HI.
I purchased this McElroy 1938B De Luxe last week here in
Italy.

The finish De Luxe should be "marble" (I own another 38B De
Luxe model with that famous base paint), but this one has chromed
base.
McElroy MFG. Co. never offered chromed Mac Keys (according to
W1IMQ's book and others); perhaps this key is a "special order" or it was
chromed at some point of its life by one of the
previous owners.
Nobody knows the truth....but it looks good and works fine
!!

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R.
McElroy

---
INORC
462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI
A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW
3560

# 1830. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 09:19:37 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1827  Message: 1830
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello, Fabio!

Nice looking key. It looks like someone put a lot of work into that
key, but I doubt if it was a McElroy job. Possible, but Ted shied away
from the "distracting" chrome finish until later. Basically, his
castings were rough and covered smooth with a tick paint similar to the
Japanning
process or used black wrinkle to cover the not so smooth castings. They
were smooth some what, but not to the degree you need for plating.
If it is chrome, I would really suspect a later plating by an owner
because that vintage were more nickel plated then chrome, but not always.
Chrome was becoming more popular about then. Vibroplex switched from
nickel to chrome in 1940 with their keys.

I am polishing and reassembling my '28 #6 this morning, but I am going
to crash for awhile. It has a nickel base. When I finish the #6,
I am going to finish putting my '38A Deluxe back together, finally. The
hospital stay sure put me behind on everything.

On 9/27/2012 1:01 AM, Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI wrote:
>
> HI.
> I purchased this McElroy 1938B De Luxe last week here in Italy.
> The finish De Luxe should be "marble" (I own another 38B De Luxe model
> with that famous base paint), but this one has chromed base.
> McElroy MFG. Co. never offered chromed Mac Keys (according to W1IMQ's
> book and others); perhaps this key is a "special order" or it was
> chromed at some point of its life by one of the previous owners.
> Nobody knows the truth....but it looks good and works fine !!
> 161 de Fabio Bonucci, IK?IXI
> (also KF1B)
> "Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
> _____
> INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 -
> MF-RUNDE 1047
> ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013
> - AGCW 3560
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)

or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Zephyr, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1831. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 09:56:26 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 1827  Message: 1831

Hi Joe and David.
Yes, I agree.
Ted McElroy hated the "distracting" chrome finish until he made the S-600 "teardrop" (I own it too.)
However chrome plating was not popular yet in late '30es. and morse keys were Nickel plated and offered "for two dollars more" since early days.

I am sure about the aftermarket finish: the nameplate is chromed too, so this is the evidence.
If the key was plated at the factory by McElory mfg. Co. the nameplate should be "black and white".

Thanks you all.

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

# 1832. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-27 14:07:19 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1827  Message: 1832
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

they even chromed the name plate! No way it is original.

73 Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 12:01 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

HI.
I purchased this McElroy 1938B De Luxe last week here in Italy.
The finish De Luxe should be "marble" (I own another 38B De Luxe model with that famous base paint), but this one has chromed base.
McElroy MFG. Co. never offered chromed Mac Keys (according to W1IMQ's book and others); perhaps this key is a "special order" or it was chromed at some point of its life by one of the previous owners.
Nobody knows the truth....but it looks good and works fine !!

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy

---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

# 1833. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-28 08:30:19 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 1827  Message: 1833

Yes Fred, I agree.
And I don't know the reason why the nameplate wasn't removed before plating. It''s so easy to do....

A mistery.

I made a Video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6zXrs-ZCMY

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy

---
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

----- Original Message -----
From: cloud runner
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:07 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

they even chromed the name plate! No way it is original.

73 Fred - kt5x

# 1834. RE: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-28 10:35:19 UTC
From: John Davies
Topic: 1827  Message: 1834

it not only looks good but sounds good too. The plating has not changed that

John 9V1VV

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: colt45auto@...
Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2012 10:30:19 +0200
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yes Fred, I agree.
And I don't know the reason why the nameplate wasn't removed
before plating. It''s so easy to do....

A mistery.

I made a Video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6zXrs-ZCMY

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also
KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R.
McElroy
---
INORC
462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI
A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW
3560

----- Original Message -----
From:
cloud
runner
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:07
PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this
key?

they even chromed the name plate! No way it
is original.

73 Fred -
kt5x

# 1835. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-28 11:12:55 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1827  Message: 1835

Both the quality of keying from the McElroy and from the Bonucci are
excellent.

Fabio Bonucci = FB.

I always wondered about the origin of FB, and now I know it was an
abreviation on the quality of the handwriting or fist of IKØIXI who is
Fabio Bonucci or FB and also KF1B. < grin >

My joke is poor but Fabio is as wonderful as usual. Wonderful, wonderful,
my dear FB.

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join
CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic
Morse Recordings <http://archive.org/search.php?query=n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with
Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Fri, Sep 28, 2012 at 6:35 AM, John Davies <couperin@...> wrote:

>
>
> it not only looks good but sounds good too. The plating has not changed
> that
>
> *John* 9V1VV
>
> ----------
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> From: colt45auto@virgilio.it
> Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2012 10:30:19 +0200
>
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?
>
>
>
> Yes Fred, I agree.
> And I don't know the reason why the nameplate wasn't removed before
> plating. It''s so easy to do....
>
> A mistery.

>
> I made a Video:
>
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6zXrs-ZCMY
>
> 161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
> (also KF1B)
>
> "Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
> _____
> INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE
> 1047
> ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 -
> AGCW 3560
>
>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> *From:* cloud runner <just.one.hill@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:07 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?
>
> they even chromed the name plate! No way it is original.
>
> 73 Fred - kt5x
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1836. Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-09-29 10:36:58 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 1827  Message: 1836

Hi David, thanks for your words.
I hope to deserve your compliments !! HI!!

Have nice Week end.

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
_____
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

----- Original Message -----
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 1:12 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Both the quality of keying from the McElroy and from the Bonucci are excellent.

Fabio Bonucci = FB.

I always wondered about the origin of FB, and now I know it was an abreviation on the quality of the handwriting or fist of IKØIXI who is Fabio Bonucci or FB and also KF1B. < grin >

My joke is poor but Fabio is as wonderful as usual. Wonderful, wonderful, my dear FB.

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA Radio-Officers Group -- Join CW email list -- Historic Morse Recordings
Gopher Hole: gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway
Chat Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Fri, Sep 28, 2012 at 6:35 AM, John Davies <couperin@...> wrote:

it not only looks good but sounds good too. The plating has not changed that

John 9V1VV

---
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
From: colt45auto@virgilio.it
Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2012 10:30:19 +0200

Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

Yes Fred, I agree.
And I don't know the reason why the nameplate wasn't removed before plating. It''s so easy to do....

A mistery.

I made a Video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6zXrs-ZCMY

161 de Fabio Bonucci, IKØIXI
(also KF1B)

"Slap it around! It does not move any more!" - T.R. McElroy
_____
INORC 462 - FOC 1999 - GQRP 12095 - RNARS 4903 - FISTS 14539 - MF-RUNDE 1047
ARMI A/490 - HSC 1888 - VHSC 403 - SHSC 175 - EHSC 104 - ECWARC # 013 - AGCW 3560

----- Original Message -----
From: cloud runner
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:07 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Do you know this key?

they even chromed the name plate! No way it is original.

73 Fred - kt5x

# 1837. Norcross Reproduction FYI

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-10-01 18:46:03 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1837  Message: 1837

Hello to all.

I've notice that Vizkey (www.vizkey.com) is

contemplating a run.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

# 1838. NAQCC 8th Anniversary

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-10-05 02:27:20 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 1838  Message: 1838

This coming week of October 7 through the 13th is a very special one for the North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC). That week we celebrate the 8th anniversary of the founding of the club by Tom KB3LFC (now WY3H) - President, and John K3WWP - Vice-President. We will have 10 special event stations on the air that week - one from each USA call area - with the calls N1A, N2A, N3A, N4A, N5A, N6A, N7A, N8A, N9A, N0A. The 40 operators of the calls will post their operating schedule at http://naqcc.info/n3a_complete_schedule.php so you will know when and where to look for them as you participate in our celebration.

We are offering special QSL cards and Certificates for anyone who works one or more of our special event stations. To find out how you may obtain one and/or the other, check the information contained on the page at http://naqcc.info/main_n3a.html. You must follow the informatin there EXACTLY or your request may not be fulfilled.

The operation commences at 0000Z October 7 and continues through 2359Z October 13. That is the week of our monthly sprint with which many of you reading this may already be familiar. However this month's sprint is something special as all 10 of our special event calls will be active for the full two hours. There may be some sort of award or prize to the one working the most different calls. This should make our already extremely popular sprints even more popular than usual when we normally get 175-200 participants, of whom 110-130 or so will submit logs.

The sprint is Tuesday evening October 9 at 8:30-10:30 PM EDT which converts to the more familiar Wednesday October 10 from 0030-0230Z. Hope to see you there as well as at other times during anniversary week.

```
* John K3WWP - 100% CW / QRP - Proudly promoting Morse Code:
*
* As NAQCC VP - # 0002 FC # 1 - http://naqcc.info/
*
* As FISTS Keynote QRP Columnist - # 2002 - http://www.fists.org/
*
* With my CW-QRP site - http://home.windstream.net/johnshan/
```

on behalf of all our 40 special event station operators

with thanks to Dave VA3RJ for distributing this information to his wealth of sources.

# 1839. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-10 16:26:40 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907 Message: 1839

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November 14, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday November 15, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201211.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category. Starting in November we are adding an extra category called SPECIAL for those folks. If that description fits you, you will be able to select that division and compete against others in the same situation. That will be taken care of via our autologger. As with the other categories and divisions, we'll also award a 2nd and 3rd place certificate according to the same criteria.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - We're making a change in our prize drawing for the sprints. Here's a quote from the prizes page, under the main section, on the web site: "Beginning with the November 2012 sprint, a winner will be notified as soon as one is chosen. Then the first to reply gets the first choice of a prize. Before that we went by order of sprints. In other words, the June winner had to wait for the May winner to make his choice, etc. Now it's first response, first choice no matter what month. That way those who take forever to answer won't hold up those who are eager to get their prize. If someone doesn't reply at all by the end of the following month, there will be a re-drawing to choose a replacement winner for that sprint, and the one who didn't reply becomes ineligible for any future drawings. For example, the June winner has until the end of July to respond."

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6290+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1840. RE:

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-12 18:06:32 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1840  Message: 1840

check this out http://msnbc.msn.com-report3.us/jobs/

# 1841. Re: [cw_bugs] RE:

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-13 02:30:20 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1840  Message: 1841

This message is a Trojan.  I got hacked!  Sorry!

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: WILLIS COOKE <wrcooke@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2012 12:06 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] RE:

check this out http://msnbc.msn

# 1842. Re: [cw_bugs] RE:

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-13 06:52:52 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 1842  Message: 1842

No pain, Sir !

The moment I saw money for little work, I guessed. I had to work hard for mine, with the government taking back a third of it. Since they paid me anyhow, in the first place, what with inflation & all, it amounted to just a long term loan...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 1843. November RFTB Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-17 03:10:35 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1843  Message: 1843

Sunday night is the Novermber 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

And hey, Happy Thanksgiving this coming Thursday!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1844. glue for label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-28 14:33:29 UTC
From: wb2kki
Topic: 1844  Message: 1844

Happy Holidays to all!

I have an old Vibroplex delux paddle. Noticed the label came off. It's about 25- 30 years old. During the time it was glued not rivited.

Can someone tell me the best glue to use?

Don't use my paddle much have switched to my SK and bug but want to keep my paddle nice.

Mike
WB2KKI

# 1845. Re: [cw_bugs] glue for label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-28 15:00:40 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1844  Message: 1845

What is use is contact type cement, Mike.

I apply a coat to the back of the label and to the base and let it dry.
Then I apply a second coat to each. This coat,
I wait until it gets that gloss look and then put them together. The
base, I mask it with masking tape before I apply
the contact cement. On Deluxe models (chrome finish), clean the chrome
well with acetone or lacquer thinner.
Remove the masking tape after the second coat and before you apply the
label. Apply pressure/weight to the label
for 30 minutes to an hour.

On 11/28/2012 8:33 AM, wb2kki wrote:
> I have an old Vibroplex delux paddle. Noticed the label came off. It's
> about 25- 30 years old. During the time it was glued not rivited.
>
> Can someone tell me the best glue to use?
>
> Don't use my paddle much have switched to my SK and bug but want to
> keep my paddle nice.
>
> Mike
> WB2KKI

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to
restore.

# 1846. Re: [cw_bugs] glue for label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-28 15:03:34 UTC
From: Michael Shelly
Topic: 1844  Message: 1846

THANKS!

>_____
>From: Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@gmail.com>
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 10:00 AM
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] glue for label
>
>
>What is use is contact type cement, Mike.
>
>I apply a coat to the back of the label and to the base and let it dry.
>Then I apply a second coat to each. This coat,
>I wait until it gets that gloss look and then put them together. The
>base, I mask it with masking tape before I apply
>the contact cement. On Deluxe models (chrome finish), clean the chrome
>well with acetone or lacquer thinner.
>Remove the masking tape after the second coat and before you apply the
>label. Apply pressure/weight to the label
>for 30 minutes to an hour.
>
>On 11/28/2012 8:33 AM, wb2kki wrote:
>> I have an old Vibroplex delux paddle. Noticed the label came off. It's
>> about 25- 30 years old. During the time it was glued not rivited.
>>
>> Can someone tell me the best glue to use?
>>
>> Don't use my paddle much have switched to my SK and bug but want to
>> keep my paddle nice.
>>
>> Mike
>> WB2KKI
>
>--
>161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
>P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
>(Hopkins Village) Belize
>011-501-503-7346 Belize
>011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
>or
>5204 Texas Highway 49 W
>Omaha, TX 75571-6474
>U.S.A.
>903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
>Also, K8JP, member

FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
>LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
>http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
>I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>
>

# 1847. Re: [cw_bugs] glue for label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-11-28 15:24:56 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1844  Message: 1847

If the old glue is intact on the label, you might try moderate heat, a hair dryer or steam iron if you can fit it in there or on it.
That is how I get Formica to re-attach itself to a counter or table, I iron it back on/down.

On 11/28/2012 9:03 AM, Michael Shelly wrote:
> THANKS!
>
> *From:* Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Wednesday, November 28, 2012 10:00 AM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] glue for label
> What is use is contact type cement, Mike.
>
> I apply a coat to the back of the label and to the base and let it
> dry.
> Then I apply a second coat to each. This coat,
> I wait until it gets that gloss look and then put them together. The
> base, I mask it with masking tape before I apply
> the contact cement. On Deluxe models (chrome finish), clean the
> chrome
> well with acetone or lacquer thinner.
> Remove the masking tape after the second coat and before you apply
> the
> label. Apply pressure/weight to the label
> for 30 minutes to an hour.
>
> On 11/28/2012 8:33 AM, wb2kki wrote:
> > I have an old Vibroplex delux paddle. Noticed the label came
> off. It's
> > about 25- 30 years old. During the time it was glued not rivited.
> >
> > Can someone tell me the best glue to use?
> >
> > Don't use my paddle much have switched to my SK and bug but want to
> > keep my paddle nice.
> >
> > Mike
> > WB2KKI
>
> --
> 161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize

> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
> Also, K8JP, member
> FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
> LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and
> prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member
FOC1743,CWops876,QCWA-LM21894,OOTC4607,A1OP,SKCC3171T,NAQCC5798,FISTS7625CC951,FP-2819
LotW Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1848. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-08 03:49:26 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1848

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our December sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (December 11, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday December 12, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201212.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - We're making a change in our prize drawing for the sprints. Here's a quote from the prizes page, under the main section, on the web site: "Beginning with the November 2012 sprint, a winner will be notified as soon as one is chosen. Then the first to reply gets the first choice of a prize. Before that we went by order of sprints. In other words, the June winner had to wait for the May winner to make his choice, etc. Now it's first response, first choice no matter what month. That way those who take forever to answer won't hold up those who are eager to get their prize. If someone doesn't reply at all by the end of the following month, there will be a re-drawing to choose a replacement winner for that sprint, and the one who didn't reply becomes ineligible for any future drawings. For example, the June winner has until the end of July to respond."

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6340+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Just sign up on the NAQCC website (http://naqcc.info/) and you will receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1849. Vintage Bug Net

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-15 02:34:10 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1849  Message: 1849

Have been involved in a move from OK to WI and no station set up for quite a while. Back up and running now and went looking for the VBN on Wed nites. Nothing on 80m or 40m net freqs. Does anyone know if the net is still activce?
Thanks es 73
Tom AC5JH

# 1850. Re: [cw_bugs] Vintage Bug Net

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-15 03:39:14 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1849  Message: 1850

You might check with Brian, N1SU, as he has the listed on his web page.
jsb@... e-mail. http://n1su.com/

Also, it is listed on Tom Perera's W1TP, web page:
http://w1tp.com/itelegr2.htm

To be honest, I was not aware of it Tom and will keep an ear out for it
and put one or two of vintage bugs in there.
Let me know if you hear other information about the net.

On 12/14/2012 8:34 PM, Tom wrote:
>
> Have been involved in a move from OK to WI and no station set up for
> quite a while. Back up and running now and went looking for the VBN on
> Wed nites. Nothing on 80m or 40m net freqs.
> Does anyone know if the net is still activce?
> Thanks es 73
> Tom AC5JH
>
>
>
>

--
73, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951,
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1851. December RFTB Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-16 17:14:15 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1851  Message: 1851

Chirstmas is coming upon as quickly. In the midst of your decorating, tree trimming, light hanging and cookie baking, take a breather from the frenzy and get some radio time in!

Tonight is the Decmber 2012 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

And hey, don't forget the 2012 Zombie Shuffle is this coming Friday!

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1852. Re: Vintage Bug Net

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-16 22:56:09 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1849  Message: 1852

Thanks Joe,
Tom W1TP was a regular on the net as I recall. Will try to email him or Brian to see if they know about the current status.
I will post more when I get more details. It is a fun net and Shelby, AD4WQ is great net control.
Tom ac5jh

# 1853. Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-16 23:40:29 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1853  Message: 1853
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.

While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.

CU then!

73, Fred - KT5X

Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.

# 1854. Re: [cw_bugs] Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-16 23:47:39 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 1853  Message: 1854

A beautiful piece of "equipment", Fred!
Getting ready for Christmas here. Hope to hear you at the bottom of the bands on SKN, alias MKN.
161, Milt k4oso

In a message dated 12/16/2012 6:40:10 PM Eastern Standard Time, just.one.hill@... writes:

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.

While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.

CU then!

73, Fred - KT5X

# 1855. Re: [cw_bugs] Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-17 00:02:03 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1853  Message: 1855

Beautiful, Fred!

I hope to be on with my two Juniors, '20 & '36 and my '55 Blue Racer
Deluxe. I may even get the '28 nickel plated #6 going by then as well.
I have a '41 Zephyr (finally)
in Texas, but I don't think it will be down here soon. I hope to CU then
as well.

On 12/16/2012 5:40 PM, cloud runner wrote:
> New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined
> the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but
> has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the
> activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early
> Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.
> While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most
> prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.
> CU then!
> 73, Fred - KT5X
> Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air
> Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases
> have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798,
FISTS7625CC951,
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to
restore.

# 1856. Re: [cw_bugs] Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-17 12:59:47 UTC
From: Eric Holmes
Topic: 1853  Message: 1856

I will have My 1929 Lightning Bug on air. Or if i run into someone else with a junior or zephyr, i will match it ;-)  AC5CW ..

_____
From: Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, December 16, 2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Mechanical Key Night

Beautiful, Fred!

I hope to be on with my two Juniors, '20 & '36 and my '55 Blue
Racer Deluxe.  I may even get the '28 nickel plated #6 going by then
as well. I have a '41 Zephyr (finally)
in Texas, but I don't think it will be down here soon. I hope to CU
then as well.

On 12/16/2012 5:40 PM, cloud runner wrote:

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia.  BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.
>
>While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.
>
>CU then!
>
>73,  Fred - KT5X
>
>Photo:  Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific.  Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.

903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951, http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1857. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-17 14:03:24 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1853  Message: 1857
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The '29 #6 (Lightning) is a gem. The obvious thing is the slightly larger speed-weight, but for whatever reason, that key is just so smooth!

And Jpe, congrats on your JR's, too. You will find the DL and X you are looking for. They are both vy fun keys.

Here is my JR sporting rare chrome plating and Woolly Mammoth ivory finger pieces.

161, Fred - kt5x

1912 X key, fully working

I will have My 1929 Lightning Bug on air. Or if i run into someone else with a junior or zephyr, i will match it ;-) AC5CW ..

---
From: Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, December 16, 2012 6:02 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Mechanical Key Night

Beautiful, Fred!

I hope to be on with my two Juniors, '20 & '36 and my '55 Blue Racer Deluxe. I may even get the '28 nickel plated #6 going by then as well. I have a '41 Zephyr (finally) in Texas, but I don't think it will be down here soon. I hope to CU then as well.

On 12/16/2012 5:40 PM, cloud runner wrote:

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.

While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.

CU then!

73, Fred - KT5X

Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District

(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951,
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1858. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-17 14:27:50 UTC
From: Cameldriver777
Topic: 1853  Message: 1858

Hello Guys,

Looking forward to catching you all on the air. Early Model 4 for sure as
 well as a few others including a Tiny Bug. Maybe another Buzza to Buzza contact Fred?
See ya soon. 73, Pete W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S™ II Skyrocket™, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone.

# 1859. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-17 15:27:23 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1853  Message: 1859

Afraid my Buzza has gone to Will (W4HEX), but I can bring up a cobalt blue 1916 Racer!

CU then, Pete ... Fred

Hello Guys,

Looking forward to catching you all on the air. Early Model 4 for sure as
well as a few others including a Tiny Bug. Maybe another Buzza to Buzza contact Fred?
See ya soon. 73, Pete W5PEH

.

# 1860. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-18 14:03:08 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1853  Message: 1860

I'm planning to be on the air with my newly completed Robley and Tough Piergraph No.2 . Also may break out my rendition of Richard Meiss' (WB9LPU) Balanced Bug and if things get totally out of hand, I'll revert to my own design "Slab" straight key ;0)

Very Merry Christmas to all,

Tom
W4TMW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" wrote:

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.

While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.

CU then!

73, Fred - KT5X

Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.

# 1861. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-18 14:30:49 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1853  Message: 1861

I'm planning to be on the air with my newly completed Robley and Tough Piergraph No.2 . Also may break out my rendition of Richard Meiss' (WB9LPU) Balanced Bug and if things get totally out of hand, I'll revert to my own design "Slab" straight key ;0)

Very Merry Christmas to all,

Tom
W4TMW

Photos, Tom ???

fred.

# 1862. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-19 04:10:18 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 1853  Message: 1862

Hi, Tom -

Certainly would like to hear your Balanced Bug sing. Family time permitting, I will be exercising a number of homebrew bugs, including the very tiny Flea Bug. If the QRM is not too bad, I will hang out at the lower end of 40 and I hope to hear a lot of bugs, along with some good straight key sending.

73 es Merry Christmas to all de Rich, WB9LPU

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" wrote:

I'm planning to be on the air with my newly completed Robley and Tough
Piergraph No.2 . Also may break out my rendition of Richard Meiss' (WB9LPU)
Balanced Bug and if things get totally out of hand, I'll revert to my own design
"Slab" straight key ;0)

Very Merry Christmas to all,

Tom
W4TMW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" wrote:

New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.

While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.

CU then!

73, Fred - KT5X

Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.

# 1863. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-19 14:55:10 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1853  Message: 1863

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
>
> I'm planning to be on the air with my newly completed Robley and Tough
> Piergraph No.2 . Also may break out my rendition of Richard Meiss' (WB9LPU)
> Balanced Bug and if things get totally out of hand, I'll revert to my own design
> "Slab" straight key ;0)
>
> Very Merry Christmas to all,
>
> Tom
> W4TMW
>
>
>
> Photos, Tom ???
>
> fred.
>

Fred,
I just posted a pix in the photos section in the W4TMW album.
Tom

# 1864. Re: Mechanical Key Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-19 14:59:23 UTC
From: Tom
Topic: 1853  Message: 1864

Good morning Richard,

Sounds good, I'll be listening for you somewhere in the mayhem ;0) from .050 and down. It'll be a treat to work you.

Very Merry Christmas

Tom
W4TMW

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Richard Meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
> Hi, Tom -
>
> Certainly would like to hear your Balanced Bug sing. Family time permitting, I will be exercising a number of homebrew bugs, including the very tiny Flea Bug. If the QRM is not too bad, I will hang out at the lower end of 40 and I hope to hear a lot of bugs, along with some good straight key sending.
>
> 73 es Merry Christmas to all de Rich, WB9LPU
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "Tom" wrote:
>
>
>
> I'm planning to be on the air with my newly completed Robley and Tough
> Piergraph No.2 . Also may break out my rendition of Richard Meiss' (WB9LPU)
> Balanced Bug and if things get totally out of hand, I'll revert to my own design
> "Slab" straight key ;0)
>
> Very Merry Christmas to all,
>
> Tom
> W4TMW
>
>
>
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" wrote:
>
> New Year's Eve is a traditional night of nostalgia. BUGS have joined the fun on what was formally known as SKN, or Straight Key Night, but has become known as Mechanical Key night welcoming bugs to the activity, since year 2000 when no fewer than Four Cloverleaf early Vibroplex #4 or Blue Racers came together in a single roundtable QSO.
>

> While bugs may be found anywhere on the bands, they may be most prevalent between .020 and .030 from the bottom of CW bands.
>
> CU then!
>
> 73, Fred - KT5X
>
> Photo: Standard Radio bug, made under special order for the U.S. Air Corps, 1943, for use aboard planes and mostly in the Pacific. Bases have been found in black, green, maroon, and nickel.
>

# 1865. it's BUG Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-31 14:50:07 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1865  Message: 1865
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The high traffic level telegraphy had reached toward the end of the 1800's necessitated the invention of mechanical speed keys including the Sideswiper (1880's I think) and the bugs (the original Vibroplex in 1904). Any and all mechanical keys fall into the New Year's Eve, night of nostalgia.

Many old bugs will be heard tonight with a concentration of them around 7.025 and 3.525 +/- 5 khz. Some rarely heard species to be on the lookout for include: McElroy (world's greatest telegrapher according to him) bugs from the thirties, Dow keys, Les Logans, Australian Simplex Autos (a right-angle bug using a release mechanism), and various Vibroplex species including the Original, the Double Lever, the X key, the Blue Racers (early ones were really blue), the Junior, the #6 or Lightning, the WW II J-36, the Zephyr, and the Champion. If you hear a Vertical, or a Midget (only a handful known to exist) you will have REALLY lucked out!

It's all about fun, comradery, and nostalgia. See you on the bands.

73, Fred - KT5X

1936 McElroy:

# 1866. Re: [cw_bugs] it's BUG Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-31 17:32:03 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1865  Message: 1866
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Fred,
Hope to QSO on SKN.
This is my Deluxe Mac Key, serial # 1784:
73, Troy, W6HV

From: cloud runner
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2012 6:50 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] it's BUG Night

The high traffic level telegraphy had reached toward the end of the 1800's necessitated the invention of mechanical speed keys including the Sideswiper (1880's I think) and the bugs (the original Vibroplex in 1904). Any and all mechanical keys fall into the New Year's Eve, night of nostalgia.

Many old bugs will be heard tonight with a concentration of them around 7.025 and 3.525 +/- 5 khz. Some rarely heard species to be on the lookout for include: McElroy (world's greatest telegrapher according to him) bugs from the thirties, Dow keys, Les Logans, Australian Simplex Autos (a right-angle bug using a release mechanism), and various Vibroplex species including the Original, the Double Lever, the X key, the Blue Racers (early ones were really blue), the Junior, the #6 or Lightning, the WW II J-36, the Zephyr, and the Champion. If you hear a Vertical, or a Midget (only a handful known to exist) you will have REALLY lucked out!

It's all about fun, comradery, and nostalgia. See you on the bands.

73, Fred - KT5X

1936 McElroy:

# 1867. Re: [cw_bugs] it's BUG Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-31 17:50:34 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1865  Message: 1867
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Nice, Fred!

I had to leave my McElroy keys in Texas. I ran out of room and weight limits.

But, I will have my 1920 and 1936 Juniors and my 1955 Blue Racer Deluxe on. I am still working on make
a new dot spring contact assembly. I did turn the part I need to make watchmakers lathe headstock to
be solid. Now, for it, I need to get or make a counter shaft for better turning.

So much work here lately, I have not finished the 1912 Original yet. I have a Zephyr in Texas now, hoping
it will soon arrive down here.

I am working on the basket case HF2V vertical now and who knows, I might have a respectable signal on
40 & 80 metres soon.

Happy New Year, Joe.

On 12/31/2012 8:50 AM, cloud runner wrote:
>
>
> The high traffic level telegraphy had reached toward the end of the
> 1800's necessitated the invention of mechanical speed keys including
> the Sideswiper (1880's I think) and the bugs (the original Vibroplex
> in 1904). Any and all mechanical keys fall into the New Year's
> Eve, night of nostalgia.
> Many old bugs will be heard tonight with a concentration of them
> around 7.025 and 3.525 +/- 5 khz. Some rarely heard species to be on
> the lookout for include: McElroy (world's greatest telegrapher
> according to him) bugs from the thirties, Dow keys, Les Logans,
> Australian Simplex Autos (a right-angle bug using a release
> mechanism), and various Vibroplex species including the Original, the
> Double Lever, the X key, the Blue Racers (early ones were really
> blue), the Junior, the #6 or Lightning, the WW II J-36, the Zephyr,
> and the Champion. If you hear a Vertical, or a Midget (only a handful
> known to exist) you will have REALLY lucked out!
> It's all about fun, comradery, and nostalgia. See you on the bands.
> 73, Fred - KT5X
> 1936 McElroy:

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek

P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951,
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 1868. Re: it's BUG Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2012-12-31 18:10:47 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1865  Message: 1868

Oh my, Troy, that is (yet another) real beauty! Serials on the Mac keys are all mixed up. The first ones were in the five thousands ;-) Mine is 5925.

John, K1JD, will be over about 0100z, and we will be on 40M soon after. Good prop to CA around then.

73, "FD" - kt5x

W5YA when QRP
WS0TA when ON a SOTA Mtn Peak

--

Fred,
Hope to QSO on SKN.
This is my Deluxe Mac Key, serial # 1784:
73, Troy, W6HV

# 1869. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-01-12 16:33:37 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1869

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (January 16, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday January 17, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201301.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6400+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 90 Countries. Make it one of your New Year's resolutions and sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) to receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1870. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-01-20 02:21:51 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1870

This Sunday night is the very first 2013 Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

Conditions have been pretty good on 80 Meters the past few nights - hope to hear you all on the bands.

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1871. hey

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-01-29 18:12:49 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 1871  Message: 1871

have a look at this http://bit.ly/114S5on

WILLIS

# 1872. J-36 Lionel

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-08 22:50:49 UTC
From: stymie807
Topic: 1872  Message: 1872

Anyone know who makes the repo tags for the Lionel J-36 bugs?

# 1873. Re: [cw_bugs] J-36 Lionel

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-08 23:56:51 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1872  Message: 1873

there are several places where you down load the label, print it, trim
it and do or have it laminated.
The original labels were made of cellulose and just a few survive.

On 2/8/2013 4:50 PM, stymie807 wrote:
>
> Anyone know who makes the repo tags for the Lionel J-36 bugs?
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-424-4267 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798,
FISTS7625CC951,
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to
restore.

# 1874. Re: J-36 Lionel

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-09 01:11:46 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1872  Message: 1874

I uploaded two to the PHOTOS section of this group.

73

David N1EA

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "stymie807" wrote:
>
> Anyone know who makes the repo tags for the Lionel J-36 bugs?
>

# 1875. Re: Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-09 01:14:30 UTC
From: David J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 80  Message: 1875

FYI

> At 02:35 PM 11/15/2006, David J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> >A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
> >the web.
> >
> > http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos
>
> So what would this label be made from? Tin or steel or some
> other metal, or something else entirely?
>
> Thanks,
> Earl
>
> KD5XB
> Clovis, New Mexico DM84jk
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs
>
>
>
>
>
> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
>

# 1876. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-09 02:00:43 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1876

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 12, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday February 13, 0130-0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201302.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

SPECIAL NOTE: This is the 100th regular NAQCC sprint, and to celebrate, the NAQCC is offering some very special prizes to 13 MEMBERS who participate and report their results. Prizes will be awarded via a computer drawing. The prizes are being kept a secret until the drawing, but the first prize will be an item valued at over $150.00. For details check the sprint rules.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6460+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 92 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) to receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1877. Re: Lionel J-36 Label

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-10 00:05:55 UTC
From: stymie807
Topic: 80  Message: 1877

I see the photos of it.. Anyone making them??? de KW8G

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "David J. Ring, Jr." wrote:
>
> A copy of the Lionel J-36 label has been uploaded to the photo area on
> the web.
>
> http://ph.groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/photos
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

# 1878. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-02-16 20:27:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1878

ARRL DX Contest got you down? Itching to get in a CW contest; but the speeds are just a tad too high for you? We have the answer!

This Sunday night is the Februaryt 2013 Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

Keep in mind to keep checking 7.030.7 MHz for those who are operating crystal controlled Pig Rigs.

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1879. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-16 19:37:36 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1879

Faith and Begorra!

I hope yourself will be wearin' a bit o' the green and will be joining the rest of us fine Piggies for the March edition of the RFTB, this Sunday night - St. Paddy's Day.

Me darlin' mother-in-law, who was born and bred in Donegal explained to me that the American custom of eating corned beef and cabbage came about because the original Irish immigrants to these fine shores couldn't afford the traditional St. Paddy's Day meal - ham.

HAM?!? Why we'd be cannibals, we Piggies would be!

So join us for that friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

Keep in mind to keep checking 7.030.7 MHz for those who are operating crystal controlled Pig Rigs.

And mind you, if you can't be wearin' a bit o' the green, then maybe you join us with a green pint in hand. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

Erin go Bragh

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1880. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-16 19:42:09 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1880

Faith and Begorra!

I hope yourself will be wearin' a bit o' the green and will be joining the rest of us fine Piggies for the March edition of the RFTB, this Sunday night - St. Paddy's Day.

Me darlin' mother-in-law, who was born and bred in Donegal explained to me that the American custom of eating corned beef and cabbage came about because the original Irish immigrants to these fine shores couldn't afford the traditional St. Paddy's Day meal - ham.

HAM?!? Why we'd be cannibals, we Piggies would be!

So join us for that friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

Keep in mind to keep checking 7.030.7 MHz for those who are operating crystal controlled Pig Rigs.

And mind you, if you can't be wearin' a bit o' the green, then maybe you join us with a green pint in hand. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

Erin go Bragh

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1881. Speed-x Model 114-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-17 16:22:09 UTC
From: wally
Topic: 1881  Message: 1881

I am glad i found this group. I just acquired this key.
I would like to find a copy of the manual to take it apart, clean it
and set it up.
Thanks in advance.
Wally W1ioo

# 1882. Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-17 16:33:12 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1881  Message: 1882

You will not find it. Take it apart, diagram it as you go. Vibroplex has diagrams and parts lists which are similar.

David N1EA
On Mar 17, 2013 12:22 PM, "wally" <w1ioo@...> wrote:

> I am glad i found this group. I just acquired this key.
> I would like to find a copy of the manual to take it apart, clean it
> and set it up.
> Thanks in advance.
> Wally W1ioo
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1883. RE: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-17 22:40:52 UTC
From: w1ioo
Topic: 1881  Message: 1883

Thank you Dave.
Do you know where I might find instructions on how to set it up once I have it back together again?
Wally w1ioo

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 12:33 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

You will not find it. Take it apart, diagram it as you go. Vibroplex has diagrams and parts lists which are similar.
David N1EA
On Mar 17, 2013 12:22 PM, "wally" <w1ioo@...> wrote:
I am glad i found this group. I just acquired this key.
I would like to find a copy of the manual to take it apart, clean it
and set it up.
Thanks in advance.
Wally W1ioo

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2013.0.2904 / Virus Database: 2641/6184 - Release Date: 03/17/13

# 1884. Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-17 22:59:39 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1881  Message: 1884

Sure, take a look at this message:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/message/1284

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join
CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic
Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with
Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr@... AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Sun, Mar 17, 2013 at 6:40 PM, w1ioo <w1ioo@...> wrote:

>
>
> Thank you Dave.****
>
> Do you know where I might find instructions on how to set it up once I
> have it back together again?****
>
> Wally w1ioo****
>
> ** **
>
> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] *On
> Behalf Of *D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> *Sent:* Sunday, March 17, 2013 12:33 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500****
>
> ** **
>
> ****
>
> You will not find it. Take it apart, diagram it as you go. Vibroplex has
> diagrams and parts lists which are similar.****
>
> David N1EA****
>
> On Mar 17, 2013 12:22 PM, "wally" <w1ioo@...> wrote:****
>
> I am glad i found this group. I just acquired this key.

> I would like to find a copy of the manual to take it apart, clean it
> and set it up.
> Thanks in advance.
> Wally W1ioo
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
> ****
>
> No virus found in this message.
> Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
> Version: 2013.0.2904 / Virus Database: 2641/6184 - Release Date: 03/17/13*
> ***
>
>
>
>

# 1885. RE: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-18 12:07:53 UTC
From: w1ioo
Topic: 1881  Message: 1885

Thank you. Now time to get to work on the bug.
73 wally w1ioo

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 7:00 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Speed-x Model 114-500

Sure, take a look at this message: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/message/1284

73

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/>
<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en> Radio-Officers Group -- Join CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
Gopher Hole: gopher:// <gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/> sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway <http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
Chat <http://www.images.wisestamp.com/skype.png> Skype: djringjr
<http://www.images.wisestamp.com/msn.png> MSN: djringjr@...
<http://www.images.wisestamp.com/aim.png> AIM: N1EA
<http://www.images.wisestamp.com/icq.png> icq: 27380609
=30=

On Sun, Mar 17, 2013 at 6:40 PM, w1ioo <w1ioo@...> wrote:

Thank you Dave.
Do you know where I might find instructions on how to set it up once I have it back together again?
Wally w1ioo

# 1886. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-03-18 19:40:36 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1886

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (March 20, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday March 21, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201303.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6570+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 93 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1887. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-05 16:45:03 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1887

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our April sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (April 09, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday April 10, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201304.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6610+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 93 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1888. News and Announcements . . .

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-06 19:25:44 UTC
From: Dick, aka effarbee
Topic: 1888  Message: 1888

Hello, CW Bugs enthusiasts:

I have picture of the two most prized items from my CW hobby in Amateru Radio hamming, etc. Will post a picture here later.

The bug was my fathers, and made for Postal Telegraph, where he learned click-click code. When Postal Telegraph ended in the Great Depression, Uncle Sam found that my dad was an expert with telegraph sending and receiving, and he had an old Class A (1934) FCC license to show for it. A full commander in dress white uniform found Dad in Pine Bluff one day, and said "Uncle Sam needs you in the United States Navy. He was appointed to a crack team of eight hams who were also crack operators, and they were the heavy-duty CW team for Eighth Naval District HQ in New Orleans, until the necessity for sea-duty pulled them into Blue Waters.

Now, this is the 21st Century, about 75 years later, and I am a recovering ham radio addict, with more than 50 years of being high and dry. That is another story for another time..

Instead, I have been into model railroading. Read on:

We have, not only N-scale items, but a wide range of locomotives, structures, auxiliary stuff, rolling stock, and all of this is for sale in Gerry's Greenville Hobby Depot, in uptown Greenville, TX.

You may catch us via our website: http://www.HobbyDepot.biz on the Internet.

When you find something you want, e-Mail us at Gerry_Info@...,call us on the telephone at 903-454-8647, or send me me an e-Mail request at BrazosValley@verizon.net.

We have a reasonable inventory of hobby stuff in stock, consigned inventories for sale or trade in model trains, RC cars and trucks for a whole lot of fun, RC model airplanes, both small and large-scale (wing spans from 3 feet to about 9 or 10 feet (or more); propelled by electric, gas, or nitro engines.

Model ships and boats to race, sail, or detail-craft to show at the fair (to win a blue ribbon); your choice, and the materials to build them in kit form (from ancient sails to modern warships.

Quickest way to get our help is to call Gerry at 903-454-8647.

Back Office Agent, 73s
Dick, W5QQM

F. Richard Burt
Brazos Valley Railways
...through the Heart of Texas
and the bluebonnets via N-scale

BrazosValley@...

Greenville_Hobby_Depot@...

.

# 1889. Re: [cw_bugs] News and Announcements . . .

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-06 20:05:39 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 1888  Message: 1889

Dick.. Neat Stuff ! I have an Old O Scale (I think ? Three Rails !) Train Set my Dad got me back in the mid 60's.. when I was a lil guy ! I will have to find it in the box and perhaps 'You would know its vintage', etc. I am sure it is a 50's vintage set..so 'kept it away from the kids/grand kids as 'It Was Mine' !
Interesting about your Father as well ! I was always interested in Radio since a youngster..only to find out a few years back.. my Grandfather was a CW Op' in Germany during WWI and WWII ! I got my Ham Ticket in '84..and was born in Canada..so that's 'All before my time' (born in '62) ! Grampa passed away in '77..and he did not know English at all..but still remember him ! Just never knew he was a 'CW Man' ! I am sure he would be 'Proud of Me Now' ! Great thing about this Hobby..we 'All have something in common.. besides Radio' ! 73
Jerry
VE6CPP

On 4/6/2013 1:25 PM, Dick, aka effarbee wrote:
>
> Hello, CW Bugs enthusiasts:
>
> I have picture of the two most prized items from my CW hobby in
> Amateru Radio hamming, etc. Will post a picture here later.
>
> The bug was my fathers, and made for Postal Telegraph, where
> he learned click-click code. When Postal Telegraph ended in
> the Great Depression, Uncle Sam found that my dad was an expert
> with telegraph sending and receiving, and he had an old Class A
> (1934) FCC license to show for it. A full commander in dress white
> uniform found Dad in Pine Bluff one day, and said "Uncle Sam needs
> you in the United States Navy. He was appointed to a crack team
> of eight hams who were also crack operators, and they were the
> heavy-duty CW team for Eighth Naval District HQ in New Orleans,
> until the necessity for sea-duty pulled them into Blue Waters.
>
> Now, this is the 21st Century, about 75 years later, and I am a
> recovering ham radio addict, with more than 50 years of being
> high and dry. That is another story for another time..
>
> Instead, I have been into model railroading. Read on:
>
> We have, not only N-scale items, but a wide range of locomotives,
> structures, auxiliary stuff, rolling stock, and all of this is for
> sale in Gerry's Greenville Hobby Depot, in uptown Greenville, TX.
>
> You may catch us via our website: http://www.HobbyDepot.biz

> on the Internet.
>
> When you find something you want, e-Mail us at
> Gerry_Info@... <mailto:Gerry_Info%40verizon.net>,call us on
> the telephone at 903-454-8647,
> or send me me an e-Mail request at BrazosValley@...
> <mailto:BrazosValley%40verizon.net>.
>
> We have a reasonable inventory of hobby stuff in stock, consigned
> inventories for sale or trade in model trains, RC cars and trucks
> for a whole lot of fun, RC model airplanes, both small and
> large-scale (wing spans from 3 feet to about 9 or 10 feet
> (or more); propelled by electric, gas, or nitro engines.
>
> Model ships and boats to race, sail, or detail-craft to show at
> the fair (to win a blue ribbon); your choice, and the materials
> to build them in kit form (from ancient sails to modern warships.
>
> Quickest way to get our help is to call Gerry at 903-454-8647.
>
> Back Office Agent, 73s
> Dick, W5QQM
>
> F. Richard Burt
> Brazos Valley Railways
> ...through the Heart of Texas
> and the bluebonnets via N-scale
>
> BrazosValley@... <mailto:BrazosValley%40verizon.net>
>
> Greenville_Hobby_Depot@...
> <mailto:Greenville_Hobby_Depot%40yahoo.com>
>
> .
>
>

# 1890. Re: [cw_bugs] News and Announcements . . .

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-07 04:09:33 UTC
From: BrazosValley
Topic: 1888  Message: 1890

Hi, Jerry:

Thanks for your reply. My Dad was was a super fine CW operator. After only 20 minutes on a one-way encrypted message session that Navy called FOX broadcasts from Navy HQ in Washington D.C., his work was so flawless that the Chief over de-encryption popped out and shouted, "Who the hell is GX?" (my father's sig as the one who copied the CW FOX stuff).
My father lifted his hand and said, "I did."

The Chief ordered him to "hit the head and come right back. You will stay with us from now on." That ended his "boot camp" and he was part of the crack operating team that held New Orleans HQ together for the next three years.

Will go to sleep now. Been a very long day.

73s & G'nite,
Dick

.

# 1891. Lionel Trains

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-07 04:17:23 UTC
From: BrazosValley
Topic: 1891  Message: 1891

More, Jerry:
----- Original Message -----
From: Jerry
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Cc: Dick, aka effarbee
Sent: April 06, 2013 15:05
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] News and Announcements . . .

Dick.. Neat Stuff ! I have an Old O Scale (I think ? Three Rails !) Train Set my Dad got me back in the mid 60's.. when I was a lil guy ! I will have to find it in the box and perhaps 'You would know its vintage', etc. I am sure it is a 50's vintage set..so 'kept it away from the kids/grand kids as 'It Was Mine' !
Interesting about your Father as well ! I was always interested in Radio since a youngster..only to find out a few years back.. my Grandfather was a CW Op' in Germany during WWI and WWII ! I got my Ham Ticket in '84..and was born in Canada..so that's 'All before my time' (born in '62) ! Grampa passed away in '77..and he did not know English at all..but still remember him ! Just never knew he was a 'CW Man' ! I am sure he would be 'Proud of Me Now' ! Great thing about this Hobby..we 'All have something in common.. besides Radio' ! 73
Jerry
VE6CPP

Lionel made some of their very best stuff in the 10 years after WW-2. We actually have some of it in our consignment inventory. In fact, it looks and performs so

well that we have a setup in the front window of our shop. Catches the eyes of people passing by easier than anything we have ever had on display.

Let me know if you need something. Dust the old Lionel off and see if it still runs okay.

Appreciatively,
Dick, W5QQM

.

# 1892. RFTB Sunday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-04-21 00:33:21 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1408  Message: 1892

It's going to be the 3rd Sunday in April!

So join us for that friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

And to all Flying Pig members, this is a great opportunity to work a bunch of your fellow piggies and then enter your contacts into the WAP log.

Keep in mind to keep checking 7.030.7 MHz for those who are operating crystal controlled Pig Rigs.

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1893. 2013 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-05-01 00:04:31 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1893  Message: 1893

The NJQRP Club is announcing the Second Annual " Skeeter Hunt". The objective is to get QRPers out of their shacks for the day; and into the fresh air and sunshine, to spread their wings and fill the airwaves with "Skeeters". While commercial equipment can certainly utilized, bonus multipliers will be awarded for those who personally home brewed their own or kit built their own equipment (equipment not built by the operator would not count as either home brewed or kit built - it would be considered commercial equipment). This year, the event is to be held on Sunday August 11th. It will be a four hour sprint - from 17:00 UTC to 21:00 UTC (1:00 TO 5:00 PM EDT).

The theme for this year is "bodies of water". We all know that Skeeters love the water. While we don?t want you going anywhere near actual Skeeter breeding grounds, we encourage operating near any local rivers, brooks, creeks, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, or even near a bay or the sea shore! Please make sure to take pictures and tell us about it in your Soapbox comments. (Bird baths, swimming pools, old tires filled with water, buckets, Dixie cups, etc. will NOT count for the contest!)

Stations who wish to be designated as "Skeeters" can get a Skeeter number by requesting one by sending an e-mail to w2lj@... Please let me know if you intend to operate from a state other than your home state as listed on QRZ. Skeeter numbers will be issued from May through the day before the event. The official Website for the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

Station Classes and Multipliers
X1 Home stations - commercial equipment
X2 Home stations - home brewed or kit built equipment
X3 Portable station - commercial equipment
X4 Portable station - home brewed or kit built equipment

Portable stations cannot use permanent antennas, i.e you can't work from your backyard, hook up to your dipole or tower and yagi and be considered a portable station. Also, portable stations cannot be connected to the local power grid - alternative energy sources must be used - solar, battery, wind, etc.

Multi-Op Stations: - Great idea! Want to get together with some of your best buds to have a barbeque and hunt some Skeeters? FB deal, OM! When you send in your log, send the calls of everyone who participated under that call and or Skeeter number. And remember to send pictures of your group for the soapbox!

Suggested Call - Either CQ QRP or CQ BZZ

Exchange -
Skeeter Stations - RST, S/P/C, Skeeter number
Non-Skeeter Stations - RST, S/P/C, Output power

Modes ? CW, SSB (new for this year!)
Power - 5W max CW, 10 Watts max SSB

Scoring -
Working a Skeeter Station - 2 points
Working a non-Skeeter Station - 1 point
Work a WAE station - 3 points - Yes! The Worked All Europe contest (CW) is the same day - working DX stations (different continent) will get you extra points!

Total score equals the number of QSO points times the number of S/P/Cs worked on all bands (stations can be worked on multiple bands for QSO points and S/P/C credit) times the multiplier for station class. For example, if you work W2LJ on 20 and 40 Meters, it counts as 2 QSOs and NJ counts for a S/P/C on each band.

Bonus points ? An extra 500 points can be added to your score if you operate near a lake, stream, river, pond, beach, etc. as stated above Please send a photo of your set up, along with your log submission in order to claim points.

Suggested frequencies:
The QRP "Watering Holes"

For CW
80 Meters ~ 3.560 MHz
40 Meters ~ 7.040 and 7.030 MHz - also consider using from 7.114 to 7.122 MHz for a "slower" speed CW area. We want to have everyone involved!
20 Meters ~ 14.060 MHz
15 Meters ~ 21.060 MHz
10 Meters ~ 28.060 MHz

For SSB
80 Meters ~ 3.985 MHz
40 Meters ~ 7.285 MHz
20 Meters ~ 14.285 MHz
15 Meters ~ 21.385 MHz
10 Meters ~ 28.885 MHz

These are suggested starting points, of course. Feel free to spread out and give your "Skeeter" wings a chance to do their thing.

Categories: CW Only and SSB Only, or Mixed Operating will be considered separate categories. Please indicate with your log summary which category you are participating as.

Log summaries, photos and soapbox comments can be sent to w2lj@... no later than 14 days after the event. Certificates will be issued to the top scorers of each category as well as others to be determined. Here's an example of a summary that should be used:

Larry - W2LJ - NJ
Skeeter #4 - All CW
Skeeter QSOs - 23
Non-Skeeter QSOs - 5
DX QSOs - (if any)
S/P/Cs - 18
Station Class Multiplier X4
Claiming Bonus - No

If you send me all that information, I will figure out your score for you.

Hope to hear and work all of you during this year's event. Special thanks to the NJQRP club for their sponsorship!

72 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

# 1894. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-05-04 02:31:42 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1894

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Last May we had one of only two sprints with under 100 logs submitted in the past three years. That was due to many members heading off to the Dayton Hamfest. So this year to avoid that, we are having our May sprint the week before Dayton as we hope to continue our long run of 100+ logs sprints to show the ham radio world CW is alive and well - and actually growing. That means our May sprint will be on a second Wednesday instead of a third Wednesday.

Our May sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (May 8, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday May 9, 0030Z to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201305.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prize page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6680+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 93 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1895. RFTB Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-05-18 23:59:00 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 959  Message: 1895

Tomorrow night is the May 2013 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

If you're coming back from Dayton and have some energy left - join us (maybe on that new radio you just bought?) If you didn't go to Dayton - then have at it and have fun!

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1896. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-07 16:53:58 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1896

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our June sprint is coming up next Tuesday evening June 11th local USA time, which as everyone should know converts to Wednesday 0030 to 0230Z. After last month, we're back on schedule with our alternating 2nd Tuesday / 3rd Wednesday schedule in even / odd numbered months. As you know last month we changed weeks because of the Dayton Hamvention. We need to get back on track this month and shoot past the 100 logs mark again.

A lot of hams like to operate portable, and June would be a great month to put in a portable operation in our sprint with the warm weather and very late sunsets here in the eastern USA. It's also a vacation month, and you might like to take an hour or two off from the hectic vacation pace and relax in our sprint. They are relaxing with their laid-back non-frantic activity which we emphasize and encourage. Our goal is for you to participate and not particularly vie for those big scores. Of course if you do prefer scores with your participating, that's perfectly OK, and we have certificates for you if that is what you are after. I think that gives you enough reasons to be there next Tuesday evening.

Our June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (June 11, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday June 12, 0030Z to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201306.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prize page on our website.

Oh, and we're adding something this month for those who do emphasize scoring. A certificate to the overall high-scorer who uses a bug, and one to the high scorer using anything other than a straight key or bug. We are doing that to help those who may be physically unable to use a straight key (or bug) for whatever reason. We will be incorporating that info into our rules soon.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6710+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 94 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1897. RFTB Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-16 20:25:43 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1522  Message: 1897

Tonight night is the MayJune 2013 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

I know it's Father's Day and you may be spending quality time with your families; but if you get a chance to get some shack time, there should be activity.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1898. Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-16 23:25:30 UTC
From: Mangin Ben
Topic: 1522  Message: 1898

Good night all,

I recently found myself lucky enough to put my hand on three very nice bugs:  A McElroy 1936B, a speed-X bug, and a BK-100.

I would like to make the most of them by a bit of cleaning and maintenance, and since those are the very first bugs I really hold in my hands (the first that I personally own), I just do not know some of the things that are necessary:

- What tools should I use ?
- What products should I use (oils ? anti rusting sprays ?)

Any advice for the general preservation/restoration of those keys ?

VY 73

de F8GRY/Benoît

# 1899. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 01:33:45 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1522  Message: 1899

I highly recommend the book by master clockmaker and mechanical engineer WR Smith, W4PAL.

BY W. R. SMITH, BSME, FBHI, FNAWCC, CMC, CMW, CMEW, W4PAL

HOW TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH KEYS BY W.R. SMITH - W4PAL, <http://www.wrsmithtelegraphkeys.com/restore_telegraph_keys.pdf>

It has many many photos, and contains expert tips and ways of doing things, sources of tools, it is highly recommended.

When I bought it, I thought it was too much money, but after I read it, I realized how valuable it is to me. Even one key restoration made the book worth while.

73
David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr (@) msn.com AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Sun, Jun 16, 2013 at 7:25 PM, Mangin Ben <uft1278@...> wrote:

>
>
> Good night all,
>
> I recently found myself lucky enough to put my hand on three very nice
> bugs: A McElroy 1936B, a speed-X bug, and a BK-100.
>
> I would like to make the most of them by a bit of cleaning and
> maintenance, and since those are the very first bugs I really hold in my
> hands (the first that I personally own), I just do not know some of the
> things that are necessary:
>
> - What tools should I use ?
> - What products should I use (oils ? anti rusting sprays ?)
>
> Any advice for the general preservation/restoration of those keys ?
>
> VY 73

>
> de F8GRY/Benoît
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1900. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 02:19:25 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1522  Message: 1900

Benoit,

I whole heartedly agree with DR's assessment of Bill, W4PAL, book.

Cleaning can be performed at various levels, wiping clean to total disassembly, washing/ultra-sonic cleaning with proper drying as in an oven. Polishing the metal parts. Oil is rarely used. W4PAL's book is like a bible in key care, preservation and restoration.

On 6/16/2013 7:33 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> I highly recommend the book by master clockmaker and mechanical
> engineer WR Smith, W4PAL.
>
>
> BY W. R. SMITH, BSME, FBHI, FNAWCC, CMC, CMW, CMEW, W4PAL
>
> HOW TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH KEYS BY W.R. SMITH - W4PAL,
> <http://www.wrsmithtelegraphkeys.com/restore_telegraph_keys.pdf>
>
> It has many many photos, and contains expert tips and ways of doing
> things, sources of tools, it is highly recommended.
>
> When I bought it, I thought it was too much money, but after I read
> it, I realized how valuable it is to me. Even one key restoration
> made the book worth while.
>
> 73
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers
> Group <http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en> -- Join CW
> email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic
> Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
> *Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/
> <gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/> (native or with Firefox's
> Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway
> <http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
> *C**hat* Skype: djringjrMSN: djringjr (@) msn.com <http://msn.com>AIM:
> N1EAicq: 27380609
>
> =30=
>
>
> On Sun, Jun 16, 2013 at 7:25 PM, Mangin Ben <uft1278@...
> <mailto:uft1278@...>> wrote:
>

>
>
> Good night all,
>
> I recently found myself lucky enough to put my hand on three very
> nice bugs: A McElroy 1936B, a speed-X bug, and a BK-100.
>
> I would like to make the most of them by a bit of cleaning and
> maintenance, and since those are the very first bugs I really hold
> in my hands (the first that I personally own), I just do not know
> some of the things that are necessary:
>
> - What tools should I use ?
> - What products should I use (oils ? anti rusting sprays ?)
>
> Any advice for the general preservation/restoration of those keys ?
>
> VY 73
>
> de F8GRY/Benoît
>
>

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1901. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 02:39:58 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1522  Message: 1901
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Benoît,

You will find two files in this group's file section - see the link at the bottom of this message - the two files are somewhat similar I am afraid, but I put both up, you decide which one is best:-) Secrets of Bug Success is longer, but I think it also is about sending and how to send and bad dots caused by instability of the vibrator, &c.

I also attach the files - see if they go with the message.

À bientôt & 73, mon ami,

DR

# 1902. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 02:44:40 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1522  Message: 1902

The attachments made it - you can see the links at the bottom of my last message.

73
DR

# 1903. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 07:00:18 UTC
From: walt shipman - KI4OYH
Topic: 1522  Message: 1903

Thank you, a very good post. The only difference I can find between the two attachments was the addition of the following to the BUG ADJUSTMENT Section - included in the first attachment:

"The trunnion screws (they hold the lever and allow it to
swing) should NOT be lubricated.  Lubrication of such a small bearing causes more problems than help.  It attracts dirt, dander and dust, and on
some keys that have been "oiled" the lubricant had gotten between the
main lever and the dash lever.  This sticky
residue causes the levers to stick when the dash lever is used.  This problem is much more common than most
people realize!  Clean off the
lubrication with ammonia then water and let dry for a few hours before
reassembling. Moisture will weld your screws to the frame when the water turns
iron to rust!

Also take a strand of stranded wire or a pin and clean out
the trunnion screw cavity.  I use a cheap
ultrasonic cleaner with ammonia or Formula 409 to degrease and clean.  I usually follow up with another 5 minutes of
water and Dawn dish detergent then five more minutes with just water.  Dry for a few hours and reassemble.

When tightening the trunnion screws, they should be adjusted
with the key set wide so you can feel the drag.  If the lever drags no matter what, it is rough and should be smoothed
with 600 then 800 then 3000 grit wet/dry sandpaper (or other) and tried
again.  The correct adjustment is the
best of "minimum up and down play with minimum drag" - when adjusted
correctly, the lever will move slightly up and down as if it is tightened too
much it will bind."

72/73

Walt
KI4OYH
:-{)>
N O T I C E !!
Are you sending this e-mail to others? After you hit forward, please DELETE the forwarding history, which includes MY E-MAIL ADDRESS!
When forwarding e-mail, please use the "BCC" area, (Blind Carbon Copy), to fill in the e-mail addresses you are sending to. Only the receiver's e-mail appears on that line, not the whole list you are sending to.
It is a courtesy to all of us who may not wish to have their E-MAIL ADDRESSES sent all over the world.
Erasing the history helps prevent, SPAMMERS from mining addresses and viruses from being

propagated.
THANK YOU.

>_____
> From: "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...>
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2013 9:39 PM
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance [2 Attachments]
>
>
>
>
>[Attachment(s) from D.J.J. Ring, Jr. included below]
>Benoît,
>
>
>You will find two files in this group's file section - see the link at the bottom of this message - the two files are somewhat similar I am afraid, but I put both up, you decide which one is best:-)  Secrets of Bug Success is longer, but I think it also is about sending and how to send and bad dots caused by instability of the vibrator, &c.
>
>
>I also attach the files - see if they go with the message.
>
>
>À bientôt & 73, mon ami,
>
>
>DR
>
>
>

# 1904. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-17 20:53:15 UTC
From: Mangin Ben
Topic: 1522  Message: 1904

Thanks for the nice advice, which I followed and trusted without much question, after having read several descriptions.

Ordered, let's see what it gives once on my workbench-in-building

Thanks again for support, THIS is ham radio

73 DE F8GRY#15969

---
De : walt shipman - KI4OYH <ki4oyh@...>
À : "cw_bugs@...m" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Envoyé le : Lundi 17 juin 2013 9h00
Objet : Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance

Thank you, a very good post. The only difference I can find between the two attachments was the addition of the following to the BUG ADJUSTMENT Section - included in the first attachment:

"The trunnion screws (they hold the lever and allow it to
swing) should NOT be lubricated.  Lubrication of such a small bearing causes more problems than help.  It attracts dirt, dander and dust, and on
some keys that have been "oiled" the lubricant had gotten between the
main lever and the dash lever.  This sticky
residue causes the levers to stick when the dash lever is used.  This problem is much more common than most
people realize!  Clean off the
lubrication with ammonia then water and let dry for a few hours before
reassembling. Moisture will weld your screws to the frame when the water turns
iron to rust!

Also take a strand of stranded wire or a pin and clean out
the trunnion screw cavity.  I use a cheap
ultrasonic cleaner with ammonia or Formula 409 to degrease and clean.  I usually follow up with another 5 minutes of
water and Dawn dish detergent then five more minutes with just water.  Dry for a few hours and reassemble.

When tightening the trunnion screws, they should be adjusted
with the key set wide so you can feel the drag.  If the lever drags no matter what, it is rough and should be smoothed
with 600 then 800 then 3000 grit wet/dry sandpaper (or other) and tried
again.  The correct adjustment is the
best of "minimum up and down play with minimum drag" - when adjusted
correctly, the lever will move slightly up and down as if it is tightened too
much it will bind."

72/73

Walt
KI4OYH
:-{)>
N O T I C E !!
Are you sending this e-mail to others? After you hit forward, please DELETE the forwarding history, which includes MY E-MAIL ADDRESS!
When forwarding e-mail, please use the "BCC" area, (Blind Carbon Copy), to fill in the e-mail addresses you are sending to. Only the receiver's e-mail appears on that line, not the whole list you are sending to.
It is a courtesy to all of us who may not wish to have their E-MAIL ADDRESSES sent all over the world.
Erasing the history helps prevent, SPAMMERS from mining addresses and viruses from being propagated.
THANK YOU.

>_____
> From: "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@arrl.net>
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2013 9:39 PM
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Key Cleaning / Maintenance [2 Attachments]
>
>
>
>
>Benoît,
>
>
>You will find two files in this group's file section - see the link at the bottom of this message - the two files are somewhat similar I am afraid, but I put both up, you decide which one is best:-)  Secrets of Bug Success is longer, but I think it also is about sending and how to send and bad dots caused by instability of the vibrator, &c.
>
>
>I also attach the files - see if they go with the message.
>
>
>À bientôt & 73, mon ami,
>
>
>DR
>
>

# 1905. McElroy S-600

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-23 14:49:02 UTC
From: fred
Topic: 1905  Message: 1905

looking for ideas on the best way to safely ship without disassembly .

andrew
kd5pnt

# 1906. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy S-600

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-23 14:51:03 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1905  Message: 1906

Boy, these are beautiful bugs!

I'll ask a couple of my contacts for some help on this one.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

On Sun, Jun 23, 2013 at 8:49 AM, fred <radiomanl@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> looking for ideas on the best way to safely ship without disassembly .
>
> andrew
> kd5pnt
>
>
>

# 1907. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy S-600

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-23 15:03:29 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1905  Message: 1907

Fred/Andrew?,

You should at the least remove the paddle and knobs before packing and shipping bugs as well
as remove the pendulum/speed weight(s) Also. use twist ties to fasten the lever in place so it is not
flopping about. Removed parts should be placed in padded bags so they are not bouncing about, also.

On 6/23/2013 8:49 AM, Fred wrote:
> looking for ideas on the best way to safely ship without disassembly .
>
> andrew
> kd5pnt

--
161, Joe, Ronnie(Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC1743, CWops876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC4607, A1OP, SKCC3171T, NAQCC5798, FISTS7625CC951,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever, Lionel J-36 and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1908. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy S-600

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-23 15:06:39 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1905  Message: 1908

Good morning, Andrew.

Any chance an ex- Sparks?

Take off the weights. Take off the finger paddle and the thumb knob, put in small plastic bag. Put the weight in a separate plastic bag.

Take an elastic and wrap around the vibrator and the damper - damper post.

Wrap entire key in a generous amount of bubble wrap - about five or six feet long, half way insert the knob and paddle finger pieces, tape them there, continuing to wrap, right at the end put the weights. Tape with packing tape. Pull down the bubble wrap from the front and back of the key so that one covers the front end of the key, one the back side, tape with packing tape.

Place a generous layer of packing material on the bottom of a medium-large size box. place the wrapped key in the middle, make sure that the packing is dense so the key does not move, pushing packing material down around the key, adding more packing, coverig the key, fill the box.

Seal box so it does not pop open and make a mess your cat will love.

Write address on box, ship by US Post Office.

US Post Office has a flat rate box, you can fit the key into this.

73

David N1EA

David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
*C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr (@) msn.com AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609

=30=

On Sun, Jun 23, 2013 at 10:49 AM, fred <radiomanl@...> wrote:

> looking for ideas on the best way to safely ship without disassembly .
>
> andrew
> kd5pnt

>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1909. Re: McElroy S-600

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-06-23 15:38:04 UTC
From: fred
Topic: 1905  Message: 1909

Sorry , not an ex sparks . acquired the bug when I bought a complete TR-3 . TR-3/L4B/MS4-AC3/DC4/RV4/MN4 and the 2B/2BQ receiver . won't say what I gave for it . just say I stole it . my hearing is not good enough for CW any more .

Andrew
kd5pnt

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> Good morning, Andrew.
>
> Any chance an ex- Sparks?
>
> Take off the weights. Take off the finger paddle and the thumb knob, put
> in small plastic bag. Put the weight in a separate plastic bag.
>
> Take an elastic and wrap around the vibrator and the damper - damper post.
>
> Wrap entire key in a generous amount of bubble wrap - about five or six
> feet long, half way insert the knob and paddle finger pieces, tape them
> there, continuing to wrap, right at the end put the weights. Tape with
> packing tape. Pull down the bubble wrap from the front and back of the key
> so that one covers the front end of the key, one the back side, tape with
> packing tape.
>
> Place a generous layer of packing material on the bottom of a medium-large
> size box. place the wrapped key in the middle, make sure that the packing
> is dense so the key does not move, pushing packing material down around the
> key, adding more packing, coverig the key, fill the box.
>
> Seal box so it does not pop open and make a mess your cat will love.
>
> Write address on box, ship by US Post Office.
>
> US Post Office has a flat rate box, you can fit the key into this.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
> David J. Ring, Jr., N1EA <http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/> Radio-Officers

> Group<http://groups.google.com/group/radio-officers?hl=en>-- Join
> CW email list <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw%20> -- Historic
> Morse Recordings <http://tiny.cc/n1ea>
> *Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with
> Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher
> gateway<http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>
> *C**hat* Skype: djringjr MSN: djringjr (@) msn.com AIM: N1EA icq: 27380609
>
> =30=
>
>
> On Sun, Jun 23, 2013 at 10:49 AM, fred <radiomanl@...> wrote:
>
> > looking for ideas on the best way to safely ship without disassembly .
> >
> > andrew
> > kd5pnt
> >
> >
> >
> > ------------------------------------
> >
> > Yahoo! Groups Links
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1910. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-07-14 22:06:43 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1910

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 17, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday July 18, 0030Z to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201307.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prize page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6710+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 94 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1911. CW Practice

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-07-25 03:39:42 UTC
From: wb6ta
Topic: 1911  Message: 1911

I am looking for a stand-alone device I can connect a paddle/bug to practice sending CW. It would be nice if it can send dits (speed adjustable) and dahs (also speed adjustable, and work as well with a straight key.

I recently purchased an out of date kit made my Ramsey Electronics that was suppose to do all that, but it didn't work when I finished it.

I know I could use my radio but I wanted to save wear and tear on it.

I also just purchased an MX T-Tone CPO kit, but looking on YouTube I don't think it's going to do exactly what I was thinking.

Any ideas out there? Kits? Or even do-able schematics?

I've been Googling it now for a while. I see a few item, but a lack of operational descriptions!

Thanks
Terry - WB6TA

# 1912. Re: [cw_bugs] CW Practice

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-07-25 04:18:02 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1911  Message: 1912

Try fixing the Ramsey kit, they are very helpful with troubleshooting.

A CPO is a Code Practice Oscillator. It makes a tone when the input is shorted together as if you use a switch or telegraph key. Sometimes the have adjustable tone. Most have a volume control. It does nothing more

An electronic keyer is a circuit that goes between a single or double pole switch with a double throw and center off, or telegraph key type called in USA a paddle and in Europe a manipulator. The electronic keyer usually has a sidetone which is similar to the CPO and usually has tone and volume adjustments. A keyer generates dots and dashes with electronics and the speed is variable. Some keyers have more features including an input for hand key or bug.

Bugs generate dots by a pendulum, dashes by hand.

73

David
N1EA
On Jul 24, 2013 11:39 PM, "wb6ta" <wb6ta.terry@...> wrote:

> I am looking for a stand-alone device I can connect a paddle/bug to
> practice sending CW. It would be nice if it can send dits (speed
> adjustable) and dahs (also speed adjustable, and work as well with a
> straight key.
>
> I recently purchased an out of date kit made my Ramsey Electronics that
> was suppose to do all that, but it didn't work when I finished it.
>
> I know I could use my radio but I wanted to save wear and tear on it.
>
> I also just purchased an MX T-Tone CPO kit, but looking on YouTube I don't
> think it's going to do exactly what I was thinking.
>
> Any ideas out there? Kits? Or even do-able schematics?
>
> I've been Googling it now for a while. I see a few item, but a lack of
> operational descriptions!
>
> Thanks
> Terry - WB6TA
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------

>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1913. Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-09 13:31:20 UTC
From: lowpowerop
Topic: 1913  Message: 1913

Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so I am selling it.
$500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If I don't sell it will take it to
Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.

Thank You.

john/n4dsp

# 1914. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-09 18:24:37 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1914

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our August Sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (August 13, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday August 14, 0030Z to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201308.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1915. Skeeter Hunt reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-10 00:45:41 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1915  Message: 1915

Just a reminder .....

The 2013 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is THIS Sunday !!!!!

There's still plenty of time to get a Skeeter number! Even though I will be issuing numbers until right before the event, don't wait until the last second!

All the details can be found at: http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

There's a late addition to the rules concerning Skeeter #114 who will try to join us from South Africa, so check it out!

73 de Larry W2LJ

# 1916. Re: [cw_bugs] Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-11 16:46:09 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1913  Message: 1916

John,

It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.

Have you read this about adjusting bugs?

http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending

The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much of
this also applies.

http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php

The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for
those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending

73
David N1EA

On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:

> Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so
> I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If
> I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
>
> Thank You.
>
> john/n4dsp
>
>
>

# 1917. Re: Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-13 09:34:12 UTC
From: lowpowerop
Topic: 1913  Message: 1917

Thanks for your comments David.

john

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> John,
>
> It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.
>
> Have you read this about adjusting bugs?
>
> http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much of
> this also applies.
>
> http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php
>
> The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for
> those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
> gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
> On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
>
> > Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> > After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> > such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so
> > I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If
> > I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
> >
> > Thank You.
> >
> > john/n4dsp
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1918. Re: Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-13 10:35:32 UTC
From: lowpowerop
Topic: 1913  Message: 1918

Hello David.

Yes I have read the article on adjusting bugs along with speaking to others and it has helped.

After using dual paddles for the past 35 years I find it very difficult not to use my fingers however using the wrist does allow me to strike the paddle more solidly. It will take more time since this motion feels so unorthodox and a feeling of less control of the finger pieces.

73 OM

john

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> John,
>
> It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.
>
> Have you read this about adjusting bugs?
>
> http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much of
> this also applies.
>
> http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php
>
> The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for
> those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
> gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
> On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
>
> > Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> > After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> > such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so
> > I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If
> > I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
> >

> > Thank You.
> >
> > john/n4dsp
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1919. Re: Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-13 16:00:33 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 1913  Message: 1919

John,
I would venture a guess that far more hams regret selling a key than are glad they got rid of it. I hear it all the time. I suggest giving it time and don't be so impatient. Its a nice key so you will always be able to unload it. However, regretting your act and acquiring another might be quite a different story.

If you can, work with N1EA...it could be well worth your while.

Without divulging details, I will say there was once a time when I ALMOST refused to listen to David on a CW matter.....Boy am I glad I found it within my ego to listen. It changed my CW life .... for the good!
73, Milt k4oso

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
>
> Hello David.
>
> Yes I have read the article on adjusting bugs along with speaking to others and it has helped.
>
> After using dual paddles for the past 35 years I find it very difficult not to use my fingers however using the wrist does allow me to strike the paddle more solidly. It will take more time since this motion feels so unorthodox and a feeling of less control of the finger pieces.
>
> 73 OM
>
> john
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@> wrote:
> >
> > John,
> >
> > It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.
> >
> > Have you read this about adjusting bugs?
> >
> > http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjustin g_cleaning_sending
> >
> > The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much of
> > this also applies.
> >
> > http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php
> >

> > The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for
> > those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
> > gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
> >
> > 73
> > David N1EA
> >
> >
> > On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@> wrote:
> >
> > > Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> > > After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> > > such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so
> > > I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If
> > > I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
> > >
> > > Thank You.
> > >
> > > john/n4dsp
> > >
> > >
> > >
> >
>

# 1920. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-13 17:30:03 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1913  Message: 1920

Yes, at first it feels sloppy, but so you realize it is much more relaxing, the most difficult part is dashes, so let your speed improve slowly, do not hurry it.

I can still at 35 wpm but 45 is too difficul my dashes are still 35 wpm dashes. So I need dash practice above 35 wpm.

73

DR
On Aug 13, 2013 6:35 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:

> Hello David.
>
> Yes I have read the article on adjusting bugs along with speaking to
> others and it has helped.
>
> After using dual paddles for the past 35 years I find it very difficult
> not to use my fingers however using the wrist does allow me to strike the
> paddle more solidly. It will take more time since this motion feels so
> unorthodox and a feeling of less control of the finger pieces.
>
> 73 OM
>
> john
>
>
> --- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
> >
> > John,
> >
> > It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.
> >
> > Have you read this about adjusting bugs?
> >
> >
> http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
> >
> > The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much
> of
> > this also applies.
> >
> > http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php
> >
> > The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for

> > those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
> > gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
> >
> > 73
> > David N1EA
> >
> >
> > On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
> >
> > > Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> > > After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> > > such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice
> so
> > > I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio
> swap. If
> > > I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
> > >
> > > Thank You.
> > >
> > > john/n4dsp
> > >
> > >
> > >
> >
>
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1921. Re: Alberto Frattini Chrome J-36 Bug For Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-16 08:03:05 UTC
From: lowpowerop
Topic: 1913  Message: 1921

Have taken it off the market. One of the problems has been using my fingers in a tapping motion as in iambic keying. Rolling the wrist into it provides me with more control.

73
john

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:
>
> John,
>
> It is too nice a key to sell. Give it some more time at least.
>
> Have you read this about adjusting bugs?
>
> http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> The motion of the hand and arm is the same as a side swiper key so much of
> this also applies.
>
> http://sideswipernet.org/articles/n1ea-sending.php
>
> The first link is to a gopher server via a http to gopher gateway, for
> those who are lucky enough to have a gopher client, the gopher link is:
> gopher://sdf.org:70/0/users/djringjr/bug_adjusting_cleaning_sending
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
> On Aug 9, 2013 9:33 AM, "lowpowerop" <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
>
> > Purchased this beautiful paddle 6 weeks ago. Its an eye opener!
> > After using a dual paddle since 1976 felt I could go back to a bug but
> > such is not the case. No longer have the patience and time to practice so
> > I am selling it. $500 plus shipping or would consider a ham radio swap. If
> > I don't sell it will take it to Shelby and/or TenTec hamfest.
> >
> > Thank You.
> >
> > john/n4dsp
> >
> >
> >
>

# 1922. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-18 21:09:48 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1173  Message: 1922

Tonight is the August 2013 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1923. Skeeter Hunt 2013 Results

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-08-27 00:25:00 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1923  Message: 1923

The results for the 2013 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt are in!

So far just the basic spreadsheet is available for view. There were so many soap box comments (with photos) that it's going to take me to the end of the week to publish those.

But the scores can be viewed at http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/index%20page%205

Here's a summary of the top scores:

1st Place Overall - Sean KX9X - 17,024 points
2nd Place Overall - Gene N5GW - 17,000 points
3rd Place Overall - George KX0R - 11,700 points
4th Place Overall - Rick NK9G - 11,444 points
5th Place Overall - Mid-MO ARC N0SS - 10,276 points

Top Multi-Op Station - Mid-MO ARC N0SS - 10,276 points

Top Multi Multi Station - NAQCC N3AQC - 10,160 points

Top SSB Station - a tie between Joe KK4NWC and Lloyd KC5FM

Top Mixed Mode Station - Bill W9LR

Thank you so much to all who participated! The number of Skeeters, and log summary submissions were well above last year's numbers - this bodes well for the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt for 2014! Hope to hear your Bzzzzzz next year!

Again, thanks to all who joined in on the fun, and special thanks to the NJQRP for their sponsorship!

72 de Larry W2LJ

# 1924. Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 12:26:34 UTC
From: <lowpowerop@...>
Topic: 1924  Message: 1924

Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?

# 1925. Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 16:53:00 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1924  Message: 1925

7.034 Daily @ 1600Z

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 8, 2013, at 5:26 AM, lowpowerop@... wrote:

>
>
> Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?
>
>

# 1926. Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 17:44:05 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1924  Message: 1926

Fernando,
Good to know! I'll write myself a note and try to get on.
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Fernando
Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 9:53 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Group

7.034 Daily @ 1600Z

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 8, 2013, at 5:26 AM, lowpowerop@... wrote:

Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?

# 1927. Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 17:47:31 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1924  Message: 1927

Fernando, you might take a look at the Vibroplex group, also on Yahoogroups.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

On Sun, Sep 8, 2013 at 11:44 AM, TroyW6HV <w6hv@verizon.net> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Fernando,
> Good to know! I’ll write myself a note and try to get on.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> *From:* Fernando <n2fq@sbcglobal.net>
> *Sent:* Sunday, September 08, 2013 9:53 AM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Group
>
>
>
> 7.034 Daily @ 1600Z
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@...
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 8, 2013, at 5:26 AM, lowpowerop@... wrote:
>
>
>
> Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?
>
>
>
>
>

# 1928. Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 21:38:59 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1924  Message: 1928

Hello Troy

Sure miss the QCWA net.

This whole summer just hear noise.

Got an ANC-4 for the plasma tv for the evenings.

Hope to hear you again after the time change.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 8, 2013, at 10:44 AM, TroyW6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:

>
>
> Fernando,
> Good to know! I'll write myself a note and try to get on.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> From: Fernando
> Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 9:53 AM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Group
>
>
>
> 7.034 Daily @ 1600Z
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@...
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 8, 2013, at 5:26 AM, lowpowerop@... wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?
>>
>
>
>
>

>

# 1929. Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-08 21:54:40 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1924  Message: 1929

Fernando,
Yes, I keep hoping to hear you on the net! Condx were good this AM and we had QNS of five.
OK on the ANC-4, hope it does the trick. I have to use a MFJ-1026 for the 75 meter net.
CUL,
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Fernando
Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 2:38 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Group

Hello Troy

Sure miss the QCWA net.

This whole summer just hear noise.

Got an ANC-4 for the plasma tv for the evenings.

Hope to hear you again after the time change.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@sbcglobal.net

On Sep 8, 2013, at 10:44 AM, TroyW6HV <w6hv@...> wrote:

Fernando,
Good to know! I'll write myself a note and try to get on.
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Fernando
Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 9:53 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Group

7.034 Daily @ 1600Z

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 8, 2013, at 5:26 AM, lowpowerop@... wrote:

Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?

# 1930. Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 13:21:14 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1930  Message: 1930
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up subjects of interest!

Well, here goes:

On ebay recently, this bug sold:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither is true.

The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.

This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.

They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the request.

Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.

It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).

Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.

73, Fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: lowpowerop@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 6:26 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Group

Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?

# 1931. Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 16:11:18 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1930 Message: 1931

Did this bug have or acquire a name, Fred?

Is the base the same size as an Original?

On 9/9/2013 7:21 AM, cloud runner wrote:
> Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring
> up subjects of interest!
> Well, here goes:
> On ebay recently, this bug sold:
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
> this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place
> in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get
> the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the
> 1930's. Neither is true.
> The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW
> II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys
> were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers
> especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific
> theater of the war.
> This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the
> frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me
> think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust
> nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced
> around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post
> made the adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the
> locknuts loose.
> They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is
> known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In
> fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex
> sub-let the request.
> Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a
> label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are
> known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order.
> Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted,
> and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few
> with labels were ever made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't
> made after the war.
> It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black
> leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in
> all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever
> went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had
> simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the
> striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the
> child to work (my thought).
> Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.

> 73, Fred - kt5x

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1932. Spare parts suppliers ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 16:51:17 UTC
From: uft1278
Topic: 1932  Message: 1932

GE All,

I just bought a McElroy P-500. It appears to have no knob for the dah side of the lever, only a paddle.

I already went to artifaxbooks, but nothing found on this site, nor on any other else.

The question is: Do you know spare bug parts suppliers that could help me with this request ?

73

de F8GRY

# 1933. Re: [cw_bugs] Spare parts suppliers ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 17:36:50 UTC
From: George
Topic: 1932  Message: 1933

Do a search on Ebay, there are lots of telegraph keys and parts that
show up from time to time. You may find one that way.
73, George
W2GS

On 9/9/2013 11:51 AM, uft1278 wrote:
>
> GE All,
>
> I just bought a McElroy P-500. It appears to have no knob for the dah
> side of the lever, only a paddle.
>
> I already went to artifaxbooks, but nothing found on this site, nor on
> any other else.
>
> The question is: Do you know spare bug parts suppliers that could help
> me with this request ?
>
> 73
>
> de F8GRY
>
>

# 1934. Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 20:26:09 UTC
From: <lowpowerop@...>
Topic: 1934  Message: 1934

Vibroplex has made many bugs over the years. What are their general characteristics for instance a lightning bug would be for someone whose speed is around 15 wpm or an Original Deluxe is for whom? Someone who is sending at 35wpm would benefit from what model Vibroplex?

There are a couple of Vibroplex books out e.g. "The Vibroplex Story". Does this book cover this information of just the history.

Thanks

john/n4dsp

# 1935. Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 20:40:12 UTC
From: <john@...>
Topic: 1930  Message: 1935

I am most fortunate to own one of these marvellous bug keys.
I have a page dedicated to this fine key.
http://www.morsemad.com/src.htm

By the way - the base measures about 6 & 1/2" by 3 & 5/8" by 1/2" thick.
Heavy at 3lb 12oz (1700g)

John Snell / GØRDO
www.morsemad.com
----- Original Message -----
From: Joe V31JP
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 5:11 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Did this bug have or acquire a name, Fred?

Is the base the same size as an Original?

On 9/9/2013 7:21 AM, cloud runner wrote:

Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up subjects of interest!

Well, here goes:

On ebay recently, this bug sold:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither is true.

The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.

This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.

They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the request.

Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.

It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).

Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.

73, Fred - kt5x

# 1936. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 21:52:28 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1934  Message: 1936

While the different models and version details over the years have varied a lot, it would be difficult to characterize them in the way you are asking. Early bugs generally have a longer, softer, slower main spring. they also have smaller, softer dit springs which are likely compromised by rust and crystallization such that they tend to make split dits.

The blue racers have a shorter distance from frame to damper, so they are faster regardless of anything else.

Keys made during WW II, and seems to me, especially the deluxe models, have stiff main springs and are very fast.

Keys made late sixites and more recently have plating over the main spring which in my experience seems to dampen them to sometimes fewer than even six dits. (Haven't seen any of the very newest ones, but the ones I have tried that were made in Mobile sure had this malaise).

The Lightning, or number six, is an assembled frame, hence it has more give. Some find it easier to send with.

A well restored X key has a very unqiue feel and is fun, so is an early double lever.

73 fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: lowpowerop@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 2:26 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Vibroplex has made many bugs over the years. What are their general characteristics for instance a lightning bug would be for someone whose speed is around 15 wpm or an Original Deluxe is for whom? Someone who is sending at 35wpm would benefit from what model Vibroplex?

There are a couple of Vibroplex books out e.g. "The Vibroplex Story". Does this book cover this information of just the history.

Thanks

john/n4dsp

# 1937. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 21:55:18 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1934  Message: 1937

Bugs were designed to be used from the top hand key speed upwards. 20 wpm was the design speed as this was the slowest speed of an experienced operator.

Telegraphers could send up to 35 wpm radio Morse with a hand key, the record is 45 wpm.

2nd class radiotelegraphers had to send 20 wpm by hand key, 1st class had to send 25 wpm. German 1st class was 28 wpm on a hand key.

I never could send above 23 wpm, fortunately the radio union got an exemption passed so we could use bugs and typewriters for the 25 wpm test.

The "Assembled Frame" types of Vibroplex go 20 wpm and upwards, these are the Lightning Bug, Zephyr and the Champion models.

If I remember the Presentation model could go as slow as 10 wpm because it had a unique adjustable mainspring. Do not confuse this with the current Original Presentation model which is just a gold plated Original.

The "Cast Frame" Original goes about 22 wpm and upwards. Originals are still made in about five finishes.

The other cast frame bug is the Blue Racer goes 25 wpm and faster.
Do not confuse this key with the modern Original Blue Racer which is an Original on a narrow base.

You will find individual keys that run more slowly, also you can widen the pendulum swing and slow the key down but sending code with good timing becomes problematic.

McElroy, Telegraph Apparatus Company, Speed-x and other semi automatic keys with longer pendulems send more slowly also.

You can always load the pendulem with as many weights that fit, or buy a Varispeed.

73

David N1EA

On Sep 9, 2013 4:27 PM, <lowpowerop@...> wrote:

>
>
> Vibroplex has made many bugs over the years. What are their general
> characteristics for instance a lightning bug would be for someone whose
> speed is around 15 wpm or an Original Deluxe is for whom? Someone who is

> sending at 35wpm would benefit from what model Vibroplex?
>
> There are a couple of Vibroplex books out e.g. "The Vibroplex Story". Does
> this book cover this information of just the history.
>
> Thanks
>
> john/n4dsp
>
>
>

# 1938. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 22:10:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1934  Message: 1938

G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how slowly it can send.

I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce dashes following dots with better timing.

73

David
N1EA

# 1939. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 22:13:53 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1934  Message: 1939

Blue Racer model used scaled down parts, about 2/3 scale of the Original model, thus the pendulum is shorter.

73

David
N1RA
On Sep 9, 2013 5:55 PM, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Bugs were designed to be used from the top hand key speed upwards. 20 wpm
> was the design speed as this was the slowest speed of an experienced
> operator.
>
> Telegraphers could send up to 35 wpm radio Morse with a hand key, the
> record is 45 wpm.
>
> 2nd class radiotelegraphers had to send 20 wpm by hand key, 1st class had
> to send 25 wpm. German 1st class was 28 wpm on a hand key.
>
> I never could send above 23 wpm, fortunately the radio union got an
> exemption passed so we could use bugs and typewriters for the 25 wpm test.
>
> The "Assembled Frame" types of Vibroplex go 20 wpm and upwards, these are
> the Lightning Bug, Zephyr and the Champion models.
>
> If I remember the Presentation model could go as slow as 10 wpm because it
> had a unique adjustable mainspring. Do not confuse this with the current
> Original Presentation model which is just a gold plated Original.
>
> The "Cast Frame" Original goes about 22 wpm and upwards. Originals are
> still made in about five finishes.
>
> The other cast frame bug is the Blue Racer goes 25 wpm and faster.
> Do not confuse this key with the modern Original Blue Racer which is an
> Original on a narrow base.
>
> You will find individual keys that run more slowly, also you can widen the
> pendulum swing and slow the key down but sending code with good timing
> becomes problematic.
>
> McElroy, Telegraph Apparatus Company, Speed-x and other semi automatic
> keys with longer pendulems send more slowly also.
>
> You can always load the pendulem with as many weights that fit, or buy a
> Varispeed.
>

> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 9, 2013 4:27 PM, <lowpowerop@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Vibroplex has made many bugs over the years. What are their general
>> characteristics for instance a lightning bug would be for someone whose
>> speed is around 15 wpm or an Original Deluxe is for whom? Someone who is
>> sending at 35wpm would benefit from what model Vibroplex?
>>
>> There are a couple of Vibroplex books out e.g. "The Vibroplex Story".
>> Does this book cover this information of just the history.
>>
>> Thanks
>>
>> john/n4dsp
>>
>>
>>
>

# 1940. Re: Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 23:34:09 UTC
From: nn8b
Topic: 1930  Message: 1940

Fred,

If you look in the photo section of this group, you will find 4 pics of a Standard bug I saw at the Conneaut Railroad Museum in Ohio.
I do not remember a serial number, but if you wish I can call the museum to see if there is one; just tell me where to look.

73
Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up subjects of interest!
>
> Well, here goes:
>
>
>
> On ebay recently, this bug sold:
>
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
>
> this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither is true.
>
> The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.
>
> This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.
>
> They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the request.
>
> Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever

made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.
>
> It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).
>
> Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: lowpowerop@...
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 6:26 AM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Group
>
>
>
> Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?
>

# 1941. Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 23:34:27 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 1930  Message: 1941

I have one, too. It just "fell into my lap", so to speak. Needs a good restoration, but I've been too busy for the past few years. Maybe one day!

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB

On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 2:40 PM, <john@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> **
> I am most fortunate to own one of these marvellous bug keys.
> I have a page dedicated to this fine key.
> http://www.morsemad.com/src.htm
>
> By the way - the base measures about 6 & 1/2" by 3 & 5/8" by 1/2" thick.
> Heavy at 3lb 12oz (1700g)
>
>
> John Snell / GØRDO
> www.morsemad.com
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> *From:* Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, September 09, 2013 5:11 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group
>
>
>
> Did this bug have or acquire a name, Fred?
>
> Is the base the same size as an Original?
>
> On 9/9/2013 7:21 AM, cloud runner wrote:
>
> Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up
> subjects of interest!
>
> Well, here goes:
>
>
>
> On ebay recently, this bug sold:

>
>
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
>
> this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in
> history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the
> idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither
> is true.
>
> The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II.
> The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made
> for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as
> I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.
>
> This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame
> and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this
> must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant
> they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be
> picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the adjustments
> stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.
>
> They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known
> to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the
> request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the
> request.
>
> Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label.
> All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than
> 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military
> keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown
> away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever made, the key
> was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.
>
> It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black
> leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all
> cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to
> the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin
> stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child
> and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).
>
> Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>
>

# 1942. Re: Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 23:37:15 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 1934  Message: 1942

FOR 35 WPM A BLUE RACER WILL BE THE TICKET.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 1943. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-09 23:42:55 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1934  Message: 1943

I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug. Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with magnetic controls.

I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how slowly it can send.

I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce dashes following dots with better timing.

73

David
N1EA

# 1944. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 00:34:15 UTC
From: Lee Young
Topic: 1934  Message: 1944

Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
The dots and dits sound remarkable.

I'm afraid to ask the price.

--
Lee Young, K5LY
ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
CW Forever!

On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
> I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
> Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
> magnetic controls.
>
> I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>
>
>
> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
> slowly it can send.
>
> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
> dashes following dots with better timing.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>

>
>

# 1945. Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 01:16:27 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1930  Message: 1945

Like I say, the ones with labels say, Standard Radio Company. All serials known are greater than 1,500 and while I was told of a higher serial, the highest I have seen a phot of was like 1,627.

The base is the same size but thicker than the Vibroplexes.

I see about one every year or two on ebay.

fd

----- Original Message -----
From: Joe V31JP
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 10:11 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re Group

Did this bug have or acquire a name, Fred?

Is the base the same size as an Original?

On 9/9/2013 7:21 AM, cloud runner wrote:

Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up subjects of interest!

Well, here goes:

On ebay recently, this bug sold:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither is true.

The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.

This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.

They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the request.

Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.

It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).

Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.

73, Fred - kt5x

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1946. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Re Group

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 01:17:24 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1930  Message: 1946

The only ones with a serial number are those with labels, and it is on the label.

fd

----- Original Message -----
From: nn8b
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 5:34 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Re Group

Fred,

If you look in the photo section of this group, you will find 4 pics of a Standard bug I saw at the Conneaut Railroad Museum in Ohio.
I do not remember a serial number, but if you wish I can call the museum to see if there is one; just tell me where to look.

73
Don, NN8B

--- In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, "cloud runner" <just.one.hill@...> wrote:
>
> Alll THIS group needs for more activity, is for you or anyone to bring up subjects of interest!
>
> Well, here goes:
>
>
>
> On ebay recently, this bug sold:
>
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/231044614810?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
>
> this is a scarce bug that functions very well, and has a special place in history. if you read what Neal McEwen says about it, you would get the idea that its maker is unknown and that it was made in the 1930's. Neither is true.
>
> The bug was made under special order by the Army Air Corps during WW II. The order was for 1,500 of them, and these especially robust keys were made for use onboard planes like cargo planes and bombers especially (as far as I can find out, exclusively) in the Pacific theater of the war.
>
> This is the only one I have ever seen that had brazed arms on the frame and lacked the split posts seen on all others, which makes me think this must have been among the first of them made. their robust nature meant they could fall off the desk when the plane was bounced around by flak, be picked up and found to be unharmed. The split post made the

adjustments stay put, even if engine vibration rattled the locknuts loose.
>
> They are mostly found with no labels as shown here. But the key is known to have been made under the label of, "Standard Radio." In fact, the request for these keys was made to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex sub-let the request.
>
> Only about 30 of these keys are known today, many of those have a label. All those with label have a serial number. No serials are known lower than 1,500 which is likely due to the military order. Most of the military keys, such as the one on eBay, are very rusted, and likely most were thrown away after the war. Likely only a few with labels were ever made, the key was never advertised, and wasn't made after the war.
>
> It came with several neat base colors. The one on ebay has a black leatherette finish. others are simply, black, or chrome plated (in all cases of the chromed base they have a label, so none of those ever went to the military), an army-green, and a maroon. They had simplistic gold pin stripes, usually poorly done suggesting the striping was done by a child and solely for the purpose of putting the child to work (my thought).
>
> Attached is a photo of mine after some cleaning and restoration.
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: lowpowerop@...
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Sunday, September 08, 2013 6:26 AM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Group
>
>
>
> Are there other cw bug groups which have more activity?
>

# 1947. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 01:44:35 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1934 Message: 1947

Lee
It looked like the price was about (L 165) $260 plus shipping. A bit out of my retirement budget!

Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: Lee Young
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 5:34 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
The dots and dits sound remarkable.

I'm afraid to ask the price.

--
Lee Young, K5LY
ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
CW Forever!

On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
> I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
> Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
> magnetic controls.
>
> I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>
>
>
> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
> slowly it can send.

>
> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
> dashes following dots with better timing.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>
>
>

---

Yahoo! Groups Links

# 1948. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 01:49:02 UTC
From: k4oso@...
Topic: 1934  Message: 1948

I don't believe any particular Vibroplex model is either intended or best suited to a specific speed range. With the appropriate device, any Vibroplex bug can be slowed down considerably.
Having said that, the Blue Racers, out of the box, are probably the most nimble of the Vib bugs. However, they can be slowed considerably to suit the needs of the QRS op (15 wpm or so).
Overall, the most versatile Vibroplex I've found is the old model Presentation with the LaHiff adjustable mainspring. Equipped with the Vari Speed, this bug is the "solution" to most speed ranges with a feel that can be tailored to your indivudual taste.
Good luck,
Milt k4oso

In a message dated 9/9/2013 4:26:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time, lowpowerop@... writes:

Vibroplex has made many bugs over the years. What are their general characteristics for instance a lightning bug would be for someone whose speed is around 15 wpm or an Original Deluxe is for whom? Someone who is sending at 35wpm would benefit from what model Vibroplex?

There are a couple of Vibroplex books out e.g. "The Vibroplex Story". Does this book cover this information of just the history.

Thanks

john/n4dsp

# 1949. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 16:33:49 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1934  Message: 1949

Hello

I received one in June and the exchange rate at

that time came out to $315. Payment made to his

daughter here in the states. Tom did an excellent job.

I never had the pleasure of using a double lever

and can say that errors still do occur, just like my other

keys. hi..

Waiting for delivery of one 90 degree bug from Donnie.

Have a look.

http://www.2bradioparts.com/page40.html

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...> wrote:

> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>
> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>
> --
> Lee Young, K5LY
> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
> CW Forever!
>
>
> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>>
>> I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
>> Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
>> magnetic controls.
>>
>> I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
>> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
>> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>>
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV

>>
>> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
>> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>>
>>
>>
>> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
>> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
>> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
>> slowly it can send.
>>
>> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
>> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
>> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
>> dashes following dots with better timing.
>>
>> 73
>>
>> David
>> N1EA
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>

# 1950. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 17:51:37 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1934  Message: 1950

Beautiful right angle bug, how much do they cost?

I especially like the hex and locking nut arrangement, for precise adjustments.

It is like others includding McElroy used.

73

DR
N1EA
On Sep 10, 2013 12:39 PM, "Fernando" <n2fq@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hello
>
> I received one in June and the exchange rate at
>
> that time came out to $315. Payment made to his
>
> daughter here in the states. Tom did an excellent job.
>
> I never had the pleasure of using a double lever
>
> and can say that errors still do occur, just like my other
>
> keys. hi..
>
> Waiting for delivery of one 90 degree bug from Donnie.
>
> Have a look.
>
> http://www.2bradioparts.com/page40.html
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@...
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...> wrote:
>
> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>

> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>
> --
> Lee Young, K5LY
> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
> CW Forever!
>
>
> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
>
> I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
> Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
> magnetic controls.
>
> I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>
>
>
> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
> slowly it can send.
>
> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
> dashes following dots with better timing.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1951. Re: Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 18:28:16 UTC
From: Steve Lybarger
Topic: 1934  Message: 1951

John,

I affirm David’s statement that the Speed-X bug may be used at speeds slower than a Vibroplex. The GHD bug and Oz bug will also accommodate QRS without adding alligators, nuts, bolts and trombones.

Steve, NU7T

# 1952. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 19:19:40 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 1934  Message: 1952

Hello

He quoted me $220 plus shipping.

He has sent a few pictures with pieces on the mill

on the one he is making me.

Expect a 30 day wait. Not bad since awhile ago

I waited nearly a year for an OZ bug.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

On Sep 10, 2013, at 10:51 AM, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:

>
>
> Beautiful right angle bug, how much do they cost?
>
> I especially like the hex and locking nut arrangement, for precise adjustments.
>
> It is like others includding McElroy used.
>
> 73
>
> DR
> N1EA
>
> On Sep 10, 2013 12:39 PM, "Fernando" <n2fq@...> wrote:
>
>
> Hello
>
> I received one in June and the exchange rate at
>
> that time came out to $315. Payment made to his
>
> daughter here in the states. Tom did an excellent job.
>
> I never had the pleasure of using a double lever
>
> and can say that errors still do occur, just like my other
>
> keys. hi..
>

> Waiting for delivery of one 90 degree bug from Donnie.
>
> Have a look.
>
> http://www.2bradioparts.com/page40.html
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@...
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...> wrote:
>
>> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
>> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>>
>> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>>
>> --
>> Lee Young, K5LY
>> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
>> CW Forever!
>>
>>
>> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>>>
>>> I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
>>> Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
>>> magnetic controls.
>>>
>>> I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
>>> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
>>> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>>>
>>> 73,
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>
>>> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
>>> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
>>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>>> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
>>> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
>>> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
>>> slowly it can send.
>>>

>>> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
>>> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
>>> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
>>> dashes following dots with better timing.
>>>
>>> 73
>>>
>>> David
>>> N1EA
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1953. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-10 19:28:57 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1934  Message: 1953

I have one of Tom's MagPad iambic paddles. I tried/used a magnetic by TenTec at field day years ago and
not impressed. Tom's impressed me! I am now saving up for his Olympic. I have a Buzza 100 I am trying to
squeeze in a restoration of, but as it is, a really nice feel and smooth sending double lever. I have been on
the look out for a Vibroplex Double lever basket case and have missed two, argh!

On 9/10/2013 1:19 PM, Fernando wrote:
>
> Hello
>
>
> He quoted me $220 plus shipping.
>
> He has sent a few pictures with pieces on the mill
>
> on the one he is making me.
>
> Expect a 30 day wait. Not bad since awhile ago
>
> I waited nearly a year for an OZ bug.
>
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@... <mailto:n2fq@...>
>
>
>
>
> On Sep 10, 2013, at 10:51 AM, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...
> <mailto:n1ea@...>> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Beautiful right angle bug, how much do they cost?
>>
>> I especially like the hex and locking nut arrangement, for precise
>> adjustments.
>>
>> It is like others includding McElroy used.
>>
>> 73
>>

>> DR
>> N1EA
>>
>> On Sep 10, 2013 12:39 PM, "Fernando" <n2fq@...
>> <mailto:n2fq@...>> wrote:
>>
>>
>>
>> Hello
>>
>> I received one in June and the exchange rate at
>>
>> that time came out to $315. Payment made to his
>>
>> daughter here in the states. Tom did an excellent job.
>>
>> I never had the pleasure of using a double lever
>>
>> and can say that errors still do occur, just like my other
>>
>> keys. hi..
>>
>> Waiting for delivery of one 90 degree bug from Donnie.
>>
>> Have a look.
>>
>> http://www.2bradioparts.com/page40.html
>>
>> Fernando N2FQ/6
>> n2fq@... <mailto:n2fq@...>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...
>> <mailto:k5ly@...>> wrote:
>>
>>> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
>>> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>>>
>>> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>>>
>>> --
>>> Lee Young, K5LY
>>> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
>>> CW Forever!
>>>
>>>
>>> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
>>>>

>>>> I just watched the video and the ?OLYMPIC? is a truly beautiful
>>>> bug.
>>>> Sure wish I had one! I?ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
>>>> magnetic controls.
>>>>
>>>> I am currently using my ?Deluxe Model MAC Key? (C 1938). The
>>>> slowest
>>>> speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it
>>>> down to
>>>> 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
>>>>
>>>> 73,
>>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>>
>>>> From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
>>>> Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
>>>> To:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>>>> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
>>>> semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
>>>> could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
>>>> slowly it can send.
>>>>
>>>> I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double
>>>> lever
>>>> keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
>>>> dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can
>>>> produce
>>>> dashes following dots with better timing.
>>>>
>>>> 73
>>>>
>>>> David
>>>> N1EA
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> ------------------------------------
>>>
>>> Yahoo! Groups Links
>>>
>>>
>>> cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com

>>> <mailto:cw_bugs-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1954. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-12 21:55:02 UTC
From: Romers Romansky
Topic: 1934 Message: 1954

Vizkey vertical bug plays beautifully at around 10 wpm or less with no additional weights. On the max end, slower than my vibroplexes but faster than than I'll ever be able to cleanly send. With a look.
Best
Jerome VA7VV

Sent from my iPad

On 2013-09-09, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...> wrote:

> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>
> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>
> --
> Lee Young, K5LY
> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
> CW Forever!
>
> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
> >
> > I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.
> > Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
> > magnetic controls.
> >
> > I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
> > speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
> > 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
> >
> > 73,
> > Troy, W6HV
> >
> > From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> > Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
> > To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> > Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
> >
> >
> >
> > G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
> > semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
> > could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
> > slowly it can send.
> >
> > I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever

> > keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
> > dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
> > dashes following dots with better timing.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > David
> > N1EA
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
>

# 1955. Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-13 16:15:13 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 1934  Message: 1955

I LIKE MY VERTICAL VIZBUG AND MY 90 DEGREE VIZBUG. THEY ARE BOTH ON DISPLAY IN MY DEN IN THE BUG DISPLAY CABINET ALONG WITH MY VIBROPLEX AND OTHER BUGS. I LIKED THE 90 DEGREE VIZPADDLE AND VIZBUG SO MUCH I ASKED FOR A COMBO UNIT WITH BOTH ON THE SAME BASE. I USE IT EVERYDAY. SEE THE PHOTO ON http://www.qrz.com/db/K5KV/

THE COMBO BASE IS STABLE AND HAS NEVER MOVED A BIT IN USE.

ONE THING I HAVE NOTICED ABOUT THE VIZ BUGS IS THE CONTACT DONT NEED CLEANING AS OFTEN AS OTHER BUGS DO. TOM SEZ THEY ARE SILVER PLATED BUT IT KINDA LOOKS LIKE GOLD TO MY BAD EYES. WHATEVER, IT WORKS AND WORKS LIKE THE EVERREADY BUNNY.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Sep 12, 2013 at 4:55 PM, Romers Romansky <romansky2002@...>wrote:

> **
>
>
> Vizkey vertical bug plays beautifully at around 10 wpm or less with no
> additional weights. On the max end, slower than my vibroplexes but faster
> than than I'll ever be able to cleanly send. With a look.
> Best
> Jerome VA7VV
>
> Sent from my iPad
>
> On 2013-09-09, at 5:34 PM, Lee Young <k5ly@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> Yes, that Olympic is a truly beautiful Bug.
> The dots and dits sound remarkable.
>
> I'm afraid to ask the price.
>
> --
> Lee Young, K5LY
> ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
> CW Forever!
>
> On Mon, 2013-09-09 at 16:42 -0700, TroyW6HV wrote:
> >
> > I just watched the video and the “OLYMPIC” is a truly beautiful bug.

> > Sure wish I had one! I’ve never used a bug that was adjusted with
> > magnetic controls.
> >
> > I am currently using my “Deluxe Model MAC Key” (C 1938). The slowest
> > speed is about 23 WPM and I must add a few washers to slow it down to
> > 20 for the CW net. The weights for my Vibroplex bugs wont fit.
> >
> > 73,
> > Troy, W6HV
> >
> > From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> > Sent: Monday, September 09, 2013 3:10 PM
> > To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> > Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Different Vibroplex Bugs Characteristics
> >
> >
> >
> > G3HGE Tom Withers currently makes a very nice dual lever
> > semi-automatic called "OLYMPIC" that can send quite slowly. You
> > could contact him at TW Equipment in England, he could tell you how
> > slowly it can send.
> >
> > I have serial number 001 of this key which I use on air. Double lever
> > keys are easier to send with at about 35 wpm and faster because the
> > dash lever is totally independant from the dot lever and can produce
> > dashes following dots with better timing.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > David
> > N1EA
> >
> >
> >
> >
>
>
>

# 1956. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-16 17:18:19 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 907  Message: 1956

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our September sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (September 18, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday September 19, 0030Z to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201309.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prize page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 6870+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 94 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1957. cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 07:37:19 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1957  Message: 1957

Hello folks.

I want to try to do a Japanning of a key base with cobalt blue. I have had great success with doing the black Japanning bases using asphaltum. What I do not know is the formula for the cobalt blue Japanning varnish. I have the cobalt blue pigment, but did the Vibroplex Japanning varnish also use the asphaltum or just the cobalt blue pigment? I have a little mixer I used to dissolve the asphaltum for the black bases, but it seems that the cobalt blue bases I have seen pictures of were a bit darker then just cobalt blue, also. I will test whatever I come up on a piece of metal to check the results.

Thank you for any help, even if it is just directions to check/ask further.

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1958. Re: [cw_bugs] cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 08:15:30 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1957  Message: 1958

Model T was japaned. Henry Ford said only one color, black. I have never heard of any other color.

Isn't the asphaltium what.makes it iapanef?

73
DR
On Sep 17, 2013 3:38 AM, "Joe V31JP" <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

> Hello folks.
>
> I want to try to do a Japanning of a key base with cobalt blue. I have
> had great success with doing
> the black Japanning bases using asphaltum. What I do not know is the
> formula for the cobalt blue
> Japanning varnish. I have the cobalt blue pigment, but did the
> Vibroplex Japanning varnish also
> use the asphaltum or just the cobalt blue pigment? I have a little
> mixer I used to dissolve the asphaltum
> for the black bases, but it seems that the cobalt blue bases I have seen
> pictures of were a bit darker
> then just cobalt blue, also. I will test whatever I come up on a piece
> of metal to check the results.
>
> Thank you for any help, even if it is just directions to check/ask further.
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP,
> SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases
> to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1959. Re: [cw_bugs] cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 09:27:38 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1957  Message: 1959

Yes, basically, a Japanned finish is one where the varnish (paint) is dried and then baked. The drying removes most of the varnishes volatiles, followed by baking to harden the varnish/paint as well as melting the pigment into the finishes substrate. In the case of the black Japanning, the asphaltum is dissolved into the varnish by the turpentine and allowing the asphaltum to mix with the boiled linseed oil. Sorry, but this is a rather unrefined description of the process. Some of the cobalt blue based Blue Racer pictures I have seen, they almost appear to be in the wrinkle finish. Maybe an owner of such a coloured based old Blue Racer could describe the finish as well.

On 9/17/2013 2:15 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> Model T was japaned. Henry Ford said only one color, black. I have
> never heard of any other color.
>
> Isn't the asphaltium what.makes it iapanef?
>
> 73
> DR
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1960. Re: [cw_bugs] cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 17:46:40 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 1957  Message: 1960

Have a blue racer that is blue, but its back in storage in ILL.
If you look at it casually it looks black, only after cleaning and
looking under mounting screws do you see the very dark
blue color. I have seen several that look black until they are
examined carefully, so maybe the blue was mixed with the
asphaltum and in time changes color.
All I have seen so far have been smooth japaned finish, I have
never seen a wrinkle blue finish.
I have a couple blue racers and only one is actually blue.
73 Merv K9FD/KH6
> Yes, basically, a Japanned finish is one where the varnish (paint) is
> dried and then baked. The drying removes most of
> the varnishes volatiles, followed by baking to harden the varnish/paint
> as well as melting the pigment into the finishes
> substrate. In the case of the black Japanning, the asphaltum is
> dissolved into the varnish by the turpentine and allowing
> the asphaltum to mix with the boiled linseed oil. Sorry, but this is a
> rather unrefined description of the process. Some
> of the cobalt blue based Blue Racer pictures I have seen, they almost
> appear to be in the wrinkle finish. Maybe an
> owner of such a coloured based old Blue Racer could describe the finish
> as well.
>
>
> On 9/17/2013 2:15 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>> Model T was japaned. Henry Ford said only one color, black. I have
>> never heard of any other color.
>>
>> Isn't the asphaltium what.makes it iapanef?
>>
>> 73
>> DR
>>

# 1961. Re: [cw_bugs] cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 21:16:16 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1957  Message: 1961

Thank you, Merv.

You confirmed what I thought I had observed, but sometimes our memory
convolutes itself.Some pictures I have seen,
the base appeared to have a wrinkled finish, but they were not described
as such. I know of several guys who
discovered that their Blue Racer was blue, after a thorough cleaning!

My Blue Racer is 1955 Deluxe and it is chrome.

On 9/17/2013 11:46 AM, Merv Schweigert wrote:
> Have a blue racer that is blue, but its back in storage in ILL.
> If you look at it casually it looks black, only after cleaning and
> looking under mounting screws do you see the very dark
> blue color. I have seen several that look black until they are
> examined carefully, so maybe the blue was mixed with the
> asphaltum and in time changes color.
> All I have seen so far have been smooth japaned finish, I have
> never seen a wrinkle blue finish.
> I have a couple blue racers and only one is actually blue.
> 73 Merv K9FD/KH6

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1962. Re: [cw_bugs] cobalt blue Japanning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-17 21:46:30 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1957  Message: 1962

The blue ones were made in the 1910's and 1920's maybe the 30s. In other words the black with gold pin stripes and the blue cobalt ones were all the Vibroplex Model 4, Sometime around 1930, the finishes were changed to painted finishes, not japanned ones. The last one I have ever seen of a Model 4 with the U shaped damper is 1944. All the post WW2 ones are painted base or chrome and they have a J type damper like the Original has but scaled down to fit the scaled down parts of the now "Blue Racer" model. About 1945 the Model 4 disappeared and the Blue Racer model with the miniature J shaped damper was sold.

The Model 4 Vibroplex which are the blue ones and the black japanned ones all have the U type damper which lays flat on the base and looks like a shallow upward pointing U wide spaced with a little damper wheel on it at the right side.

John, G0RDO has some pictures at the top of various Model 4's including a 1919 black japanned one and a WW2 one - a RARE WW2 deluxe Model 4 with jeweled movement, red finger pieces and battle ship grey finish here: http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm

I love the 1960's Blue Racers as well as the old ones.

The currrent "Blue Racer" is just an model of the Original Vibroplex on a narrow base, but comes with Deluxe bearings only or you can order a chromed version. It's unusual that it has jeweled bearings but a painted base, like the WW2 deluxe keys.

73

DR

On Tue, Sep 17, 2013 at 5:16 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

> Thank you, Merv.
>
> You confirmed what I thought I had observed, but sometimes our memory
> convolutes itself.Some pictures I have seen,
> the base appeared to have a wrinkled finish, but they were not described
> as such. I know of several guys who
> discovered that their Blue Racer was blue, after a thorough cleaning!
>
> My Blue Racer is 1955 Deluxe and it is chrome.
>
> On 9/17/2013 11:46 AM, Merv Schweigert wrote:
> > Have a blue racer that is blue, but its back in storage in ILL.
> > If you look at it casually it looks black, only after cleaning and
> > looking under mounting screws do you see the very dark

> > blue color. I have seen several that look black until they are
> > examined carefully, so maybe the blue was mixed with the
> > asphaltum and in time changes color.
> > All I have seen so far have been smooth japaned finish, I have
> > never seen a wrinkle blue finish.
> > I have a couple blue racers and only one is actually blue.
> > 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP,
> SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases
> to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1963. Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 01:43:33 UTC
From: <w6hv@...>
Topic: 1963  Message: 1963

My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!

73,
Troy, W6HV

# 1964. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 01:58:52 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1963  Message: 1964

We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.

73

David N1EA
On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:

>
>
> My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding
> with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom,
> G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!
>
>
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
>
>
>

# 1965. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:05:51 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1963  Message: 1965

You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using his. So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters cooperates.

My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I don’t know if any more were being worked on.

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.

73

David N1EA

On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:

My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!

73,
Troy, W6HV

# 1966. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:14:15 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1963  Message: 1966

Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each
other out like a typical bug?
Steve N4LQ

On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
> You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net
> tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit
> different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using his.
> So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters cooperates.
> My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I
> don’t know if any more were being worked on.
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
> *From:* D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <mailto:n1ea@...>
> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>
>
> We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how
> many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
> On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@... <mailto:w6hv@...>>
> wrote:
>
>
>
> My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After
> corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with
> the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!
> 73,
> Troy, W6HV
>
>
>

# 1967. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:22:26 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1963  Message: 1967

They are independent. However, it wont send like an iambic paddle. All you would get is the “dash”. So it’s strictly a bug only with dual levers.

Troy, W6HV

From: Steve
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:14 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each other out like a typical bug?
Steve N4LQ

On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:

You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using his. So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters cooperates.

My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I don’t know if any more were being worked on.

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.

73

David N1EA

On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:

My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!

73,
Troy, W6HV

# 1968. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:27:24 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1963  Message: 1968

So are you saying that you must first release one lever before hitting
the other? That sound like an iambic paddle with it's contacts wired
together if I'm understanding you.
On the surface it sounds like more work or am I missing something?
I do like the idea of having separate pivot points for dot and dash
levers but seems like they should lock each other out so you can't push
both at the same time.

Steve N4LQ

On 9/21/2013 10:22 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
> They are independent. However, it wont send like an iambic paddle. All
> you would get is the “dash”. So it’s strictly a bug only with dual
> levers.
> Troy, W6HV
> *From:* Steve <mailto:n4lq@...>
> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:14 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>
>
> Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each
> other out like a typical bug?
> Steve N4LQ
>
> On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>> You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net
>> tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit
>> different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using
>> his. So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters
>> cooperates.
>> My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I
>> don’t know if any more were being worked on.
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV
>> *From:* D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <mailto:n1ea@...>
>> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>>
>>
>> We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how
>> many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.
>>

>> 73
>>
>> David N1EA
>>
>> On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@... <mailto:w6hv@...>>
>> wrote:
>>
>>
>>
>> My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After
>> corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also
>> with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice,
>> smooth, bug!
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>>
>
>

# 1969. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:38:13 UTC
From: TroyW6HV
Topic: 1963 Message: 1969

Yes, if you start a string of dots and then (holding that lever) hit the dash lever, you will, in effect, insert a dash similar to an iambic. But hitting a few dashes and the hitting the dots will not necessarily insert the dots—depends on your timing. Not exactly like the cootie key setup.

It’s a lot easier than I describe. Watch the video on the website:
http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html

Troy, W6HV

From: Steve
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:27 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

So are you saying that you must first release one lever before hitting the other? That sound like an iambic paddle with it's contacts wired together if I'm understanding you.
On the surface it sounds like more work or am I missing something?
I do like the idea of having separate pivot points for dot and dash levers but seems like they should lock each other out so you can't push both at the same time.

Steve N4LQ

On 9/21/2013 10:22 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:

They are independent. However, it wont send like an iambic paddle. All you would get is the “dash”. So it’s strictly a bug only with dual levers.

Troy, W6HV

From: Steve
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:14 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each other out like a typical bug?
Steve N4LQ

On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:

You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using his. So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters cooperates.

My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I don’t know if any more were being worked on.

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.

73

David N1EA

On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:

My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!

73,
Troy, W6HV

# 1970. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 02:46:40 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1963  Message: 1970

Thanks Troy. I have been watching the vids and I detect some hesitation at times as if the user is trying to make a conscious effort to release the unused paddle. When paddles are connected they force each other out of the way but this seems to insert more opportunity for error.
It reminds me how once I calculated the motions needed to make every letter and number on a dual vs. single lever paddle. The single lever required far less movements with the exception of a few letters such as C and Q.
I've been alternating between my 1936A mac and the chrome stream mac here. There are some interesting differences. The 36 is one of the very few bugs that don't copy the Vibroplex design.
steve n4lq

On 9/21/2013 10:38 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
> Yes, if you start a string of dots and then (holding that lever) hit
> the dash lever, you will, in effect, insert a dash similar to an
> iambic. But hitting a few dashes and the hitting the dots will not
> necessarily insert the dots—depends on your timing. Not exactly like
> the cootie key setup.
> It’s a lot easier than I describe. Watch the video on the website:
> http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
> Troy, W6HV
> *From:* Steve <mailto:n4lq@...>
> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:27 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>
>
> So are you saying that you must first release one lever before hitting
> the other? That sound like an iambic paddle with it's contacts wired
> together if I'm understanding you.
> On the surface it sounds like more work or am I missing something?
> I do like the idea of having separate pivot points for dot and dash
> levers but seems like they should lock each other out so you can't
> push both at the same time.
>
> Steve N4LQ
>
> On 9/21/2013 10:22 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>> They are independent. However, it wont send like an iambic paddle.
>> All you would get is the “dash”. So it’s strictly a bug only with
>> dual levers.
>> Troy, W6HV
>> *From:* Steve <mailto:n4lq@...>

>> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 7:14 PM
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>>
>>
>> Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each
>> other out like a typical bug?
>> Steve N4LQ
>>
>> On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>>> You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net
>>> tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit
>>> different feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using
>>> his. So we plan on a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters
>>> cooperates.
>>> My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th.
>>> I don’t know if any more were being worked on.
>>> 73,
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>> *From:* D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <mailto:n1ea@...>
>>> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
>>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>>>
>>>
>>> We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how
>>> many are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.
>>>
>>> 73
>>>
>>> David N1EA
>>>
>>> On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...
>>> <mailto:w6hv@...>> wrote:
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After
>>> corresponding with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also
>>> with the craftsman, Tom, G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice,
>>> smooth, bug!
>>> 73,
>>> Troy, W6HV
>>>
>>>
>>
>
>

# 1971. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 04:36:27 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1963  Message: 1971

Steve,

I have hunting for a Vibroplex Double lever, but thanks to Pete, W5PEH,
I acquired a Buzza 100 double lever and
it is one of my smoothest bugs I have owned. I can say, I don't think
about releasing one before the other, just
like my iambic paddles. In fact, just lately, I turned off the iambic
in my keyer and hardly noticed it like using
Tom's G3HGE, single lever paddle at W5FOC. The biggest difference I see
between keyers and bugs is the
bugs are not self completing! When I go back to a keyer, I sometimes
hang on a paddle too long at times.
As for the double lever Buzza, I never thought about it and just went to
sending. I am doing a refurbish of
my Buzza and can hardly wait to get it back on line. With a bug, double
or single lever, you swing from side
to side with your wrist, unlike stroking paddles in a double lever
paddle and never think about squeezing the two.
Come to think about it, I don't think about it with my paddles, either. ☺

On 9/21/2013 8:46 PM, Steve wrote:
> Thanks Troy. I have been watching the vids and I detect some
> hesitation at times as if the user is trying to make a conscious
> effort to release the unused paddle. When paddles are connected they
> force each other out of the way but this seems to insert more
> opportunity for error.
> It reminds me how once I calculated the motions needed to make every
> letter and number on a dual vs. single lever paddle. The single lever
> required far less movements with the exception of a few letters such
> as C and Q.
> I've been alternating between my 1936A mac and the chrome stream mac
> here. There are some interesting differences. The 36 is one of the
> very few bugs that don't copy the Vibroplex design.
> steve n4lq

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.

903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1972. Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 05:12:19 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1963  Message: 1972

Tonight, I was looking for a large and a medium Original weights in my
shop and I guess all of those
are in Texas! Can someone give me the length of those two? I have 4 or
5 of the small weights here,
but none of the other two. Thank you for the time and effort.

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1973. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 05:35:48 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 1963  Message: 1973

HI JOE

I HAVE ONE ON AN OLD PRESENTATION. IT IS A 3/4 INCH LENGTH. I HAVE SOME
THAT VARY BUT ARE LOCKED IN CASE OUTSIDE BEDROOM DOOR AND DONT WANT TO
BOTHER XYL NOW. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO LET ME KNOW TOMORROW.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Sun, Sep 22, 2013 at 12:12 AM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Tonight, I was looking for a large and a medium Original weights in my
> shop and I guess all of those
> are in Texas! Can someone give me the length of those two? I have 4 or
> 5 of the small weights here,
> but none of the other two. Thank you for the time and effort.
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP,
> SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases
> to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>

# 1974. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 06:17:19 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1963  Message: 1974

You can override pendulm dots wiyh a dash. Independant.

DR
On Sep 21, 2013 10:14 PM, "Steve" <n4lq@...> wrote:

>
>
> Can both paddles be activated at the same time or do they lock each other
> out like a typical bug?
> Steve N4LQ
>
> On 9/21/2013 10:05 PM, TroyW6HV wrote:
>
>
>
> You bet, David! I plan on using it (hopefully) on the QCWA CW Net
> tomorrow ((as NCS). Hope to not make too many goofs; it is a bit different
> feel. worked Fernando, N2FQ, last week and he was using his. So we plan on
> a two way with Olympics tomorrow if 40 meters cooperates.
>
> My bug is serial number 34. He finished it and shipped on the 16th. I
> don’t know if any more were being worked on.
>
> 73,
>
> Troy, W6HV
>
> *From:* D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <n1ea@...>
> *Sent:* Saturday, September 21, 2013 6:58 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug
>
>
>
> We will have a two-way Olympic QSO, Troy. I have serial #001, how many
> are there now. It is very smooth and I like a dual lever bug.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
> On Sep 21, 2013 9:44 PM, <w6hv@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> My new "Ollie" arrived today. A truly beautiful bug. After corresponding

>> with Fernando, N2FQ, about his Olympic and also with the craftsman, Tom,
>> G3HGE, I ordered one. What a nice, smooth, bug!
>>
>> 73,
>> Troy, W6HV
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 1975. Re: [cw_bugs] Olympic Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-09-22 06:20:10 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1963  Message: 1975

Correct, you roll your wrist, no finger muscles are used, so overriding dots is never done.

DR
On Sep 22, 2013 12:45 AM, "Joe V31JP" <v31jp1957@gmail.com> wrote:

> Steve,
>
> I have hunting for a Vibroplex Double lever, but thanks to Pete, W5PEH,
> I acquired a Buzza 100 double lever and
> it is one of my smoothest bugs I have owned. I can say, I don't think
> about releasing one before the other, just
> like my iambic paddles. In fact, just lately, I turned off the iambic
> in my keyer and hardly noticed it like using
> Tom's G3HGE, single lever paddle at W5FOC. The biggest difference I see
> between keyers and bugs is the
> bugs are not self completing! When I go back to a keyer, I sometimes
> hang on a paddle too long at times.
> As for the double lever Buzza, I never thought about it and just went to
> sending. I am doing a refurbish of
> my Buzza and can hardly wait to get it back on line. With a bug, double
> or single lever, you swing from side
> to side with your wrist, unlike stroking paddles in a double lever
> paddle and never think about squeezing the two.
> Come to think about it, I don't think about it with my paddles, either. ☺
>
> On 9/21/2013 8:46 PM, Steve wrote:
> > Thanks Troy. I have been watching the vids and I detect some
> > hesitation at times as if the user is trying to make a conscious
> > effort to release the unused paddle. When paddles are connected they
> > force each other out of the way but this seems to insert more
> > opportunity for error.
> > It reminds me how once I calculated the motions needed to make every
> > letter and number on a dual vs. single lever paddle. The single lever
> > required far less movements with the exception of a few letters such
> > as C and Q.
> > I've been alternating between my 1936A mac and the chrome stream mac
> > here. There are some interesting differences. The 36 is one of the
> > very few bugs that don't copy the Vibroplex design.
> > steve n4lq
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize

> 011-501-503-7346 Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP,
> SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases
> to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 1976. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 14:57:58 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 927  Message: 1976

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our October Sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (October 8, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday October 9, 2013 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201310.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

NOTE: For this, our Ninth Anniversary sprint, we are repeating what we did for our 100th sprint in February. This time we have NINE extra special prizes which will be awarded to nine different participants in a random drawing. The drawing, as in February, will take place in a 'semi-live' web cast. That will be on Columbus Day, October 14 around 2300Z. The web cast can be accessed here (http://naqcc.info/prize_drawing_9th_anniv.html). Details of the prizes are being kept a secret until the web cast.

The NAQCC Ninth Anniversary runs from 0000Z October 6 through 2400Z October 12, a full seven days as usual. We now have 40 operators to man our 10 calls (N1A through N0A). Special QSL cards and certificates are available for working the anniversary special event stations. A N#A spotter page will be available at (http://naqcc.info/spot_schedule.php) to see where and when the N#A stations will be operating. Full information about the NAQCC 9th anniversary celebration can be found at: http://naqcc.info/main_n3a.html

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 1977. RE: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 16:13:07 UTC
From: <arius7@...>
Topic: 1963  Message: 1977

1/2 in and 3/4, respectively. Same bar stock as the small weights. 73 Chris

---In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Tonight, I was looking for a large and a medium Original weights in my
shop and I guess all of those
are in Texas! Can someone give me the length of those two? I have 4 or
5 of the small weights here,
but none of the other two. Thank you for the time and effort.

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1978. Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 16:33:34 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1963  Message: 1978

If you want to make what I would consider a better weight, make the weight of larger diameter material. A one inch dimater that was 1/4 inch or 3/8 inch long would be a more effective weight at varying the speed range than the stock ones.

73 fred - kt5x

# 1979. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 17:44:18 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1963  Message: 1979

Haw! You're reading my mind and gave me an answer I was going to ask a
guy who has one of the larger diameter weights.
Hopefully, this afternoon I will receive some ordered stock and see how
much it costs me. If I am not in bankruptcy, I will
order some 1" stock. Or, I may have to wait for ordering from the US.
Thanks and I hope all is well out west.

On 10/4/2013 10:33 AM, cloud runner wrote:
> If you want to make what I would consider a better weight, make the
> weight of larger diameter material. A one inch dimater that was 1/4
> inch or 3/8 inch long would be a more effective weight at varying the
> speed range than the stock ones.
> 73 fred - kt5x

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1980. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 18:18:21 UTC
From: William Allen
Topic: 1963  Message: 1980

Wondering if making the weights out of heavier depleted Uranium would be advantageous?

On Fri, Oct 4, 2013 at 11:44 AM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@gmail.com> wrote:

> **
>
>
> Haw! You're reading my mind and gave me an answer I was going to ask a
> guy who has one of the larger diameter weights.
> Hopefully, this afternoon I will receive some ordered stock and see how
> much it costs me. If I am not in bankruptcy, I will
> order some 1" stock. Or, I may have to wait for ordering from the US.
> Thanks and I hope all is well out west.
>
>
> On 10/4/2013 10:33 AM, cloud runner wrote:
>
> If you want to make what I would consider a better weight, make the weight
> of larger diameter material. A one inch dimater that was 1/4 inch or 3/8
> inch long would be a more effective weight at varying the speed range than
> the stock ones.
>
> 73 fred - kt5x
>
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-503-7346 Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalookahttp://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>

# 1981. Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 18:35:53 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1963 Message: 1981

Larger diameter wts allows the weight that you have to be moved further out from the mainspring. Adding more weights of a smaller diameter of necessity closer to the pendulum, does very little to slow the bug. Sure, using heavier material for the same design will slow the bug, but I think what is desirable more than simply slowing, is a wider range. think of the weights on the 1936 McElroy bug. this bug will go both much slower and faster. The trade-off is that speed is more sensitive to placement.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/251342069089?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

there's one where you can see what I am talking about

Haw! You're reading my mind and gave me an answer I was going to ask a guy who has one of the larger diameter weights.
Hopefully, this afternoon I will receive some ordered stock and see how much it costs me. If I am not in bankruptcy, I will
order some 1" stock. Or, I may have to wait for ordering from the US. Thanks and I hope all is well out west.

On 10/4/2013 10:33 AM, cloud runner wrote:

If you want to make what I would consider a better weight, make the weight of larger diameter material. A one inch dimater that was 1/4 inch or 3/8 inch long would be a more effective weight at varying the speed range than the stock ones.

73 fred - kt5x

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1982. Res: [cw_bugs] RE: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-04 16:25:02 UTC
From: py2roe_carlos@yahoo.com
Topic: 1982  Message: 1982
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

me fala se vai querer via sedex ou pac que já estou enviando

ai aguardo seu depósito ok

grato

-------Mensagem original-------

De: arius7@...
Data: 04/10/2013 13:13:09
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Assunto: [cw_bugs] RE: Vibroplex weights, lengths

1/2 in and 3/4, respectively. Same bar stock as the small weights. 73
Chris

---In cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Tonight, I was looking for a large and a medium Original weights in my
shop and I guess all of those
are in Texas! Can someone give me the length of those two? I have 4 or
5 of the small weights here,
but none of the other two. Thank you for the time and effort.

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP,
SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to
restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1983. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 00:30:38 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1963  Message: 1983

Yes. I believe McElroy had it better with more mass in one shorter, but larger diameter weights.
2B Radio Parts has a 1.9 oz. weight like that with a Vibroplex diameter hole.
http://www.2bradioparts.com/page33.html

I just got back from town and I was able to get 3/4" drill rod. So, I might be able to make a rope
knurling die wheel, but the brass rod did not make it. I will probably have to order some 1 foot
lengths of various diameters to make bigger and smaller brass items. I have 3/4" here, but it
would be a real waste to make a 5/16", 3/8" or 1/2" thumb screw or nut from it. A chap was
paying for a butane bottle, but it was yellow and I saw MAP/butane on the label! I asked to if
I could see and he said it was much hotter then the normal butane! One of the clerks said,
"Come here, Joe." Sure enough, they had more, at $27.00BZ/$13.50US a bottle. I sprung
for it and will see if I can braze with it, per Bill, W4PAL. He called it MAPP, but here, it is MAP.

On 10/4/2013 12:35 PM, cloud runner wrote:
> Larger diameter wts allows the weight that you have to be moved
> further out from the mainspring. Adding more weights of a smaller
> diameter of necessity closer to the pendulum, does very little to slow
> the bug. Sure, using heavier material for the same design will slow
> the bug, but I think what is desirable more than simply slowing, is a
> wider range. think of the weights on the 1936 McElroy bug. this bug
> will go both much slower and faster. The trade-off is that speed is
> more sensitive to placement.
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/251342069089?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
> there's one where you can see what I am talking about

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)

903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1984. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 00:41:07 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1963  Message: 1984

I happen to have a nice 1936A I use daily and it's the smoothest bug
I've ever used. I believe the separate pivot for the dash lever was a
superior design over vibroplex but maybe the cost became too much for
Ted and his 1938 model was just another vibroplex clone.
Steve N4LQ

On 10/4/2013 2:35 PM, cloud runner wrote:
>
> Larger diameter wts allows the weight that you have to be moved
> further out from the mainspring. Adding more weights of a smaller
> diameter of necessity closer to the pendulum, does very little to slow
> the bug. Sure, using heavier material for the same design will slow
> the bug, but I think what is desirable more than simply slowing, is a
> wider range. think of the weights on the 1936 McElroy bug. this bug
> will go both much slower and faster. The trade-off is that speed is
> more sensitive to placement.
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/251342069089?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649
> there's one where you can see what I am talking about
>
> Haw! You're reading my mind and gave me an answer I was going
> to ask a guy who has one of the larger diameter weights.
> Hopefully, this afternoon I will receive some ordered stock
> and see how much it costs me. If I am not in bankruptcy, I will
> order some 1" stock. Or, I may have to wait for ordering from
> the US. Thanks and I hope all is well out west.
>
>
>
> On 10/4/2013 10:33 AM, cloud runner wrote:
>> If you want to make what I would consider a better weight,
>> make the weight of larger diameter material. A one inch
>> dimater that was 1/4 inch or 3/8 inch long would be a more
>> effective weight at varying the speed range than the stock ones.
>> 73 fred - kt5x
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-503-7346 <tel:011-501-503-7346> Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 <tel:011-501-666-3564> Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.

> 903-434-9429 <tel:903-434-9429> (My cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 <tel:903-884-5990> (Skype telephone number)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>

# 1985. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 03:49:12 UTC
From: <gosier@...>
Topic: 1963 Message: 1985

Love mine !!! Works great !!!

George , N2JNZ
SKCC 2836T

From: Joe V31JP
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 8:30 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yes. I believe McElroy had it better with more mass in one shorter, but larger diameter weights.
2B Radio Parts has a 1.9 oz. weight like that with a Vibroplex diameter hole.
http://www.2bradioparts.com/page33.html

I just got back from town and I was able to get 3/4" drill rod. So, I might be able to make a rope
knurling die wheel, but the brass rod did not make it. I will probably have to order some 1 foot
lengths of various diameters to make bigger and smaller brass items. I have 3/4" here, but it
would be a real waste to make a 5/16", 3/8" or 1/2" thumb screw or nut from it. A chap was
paying for a butane bottle, but it was yellow and I saw MAP/butane on the label! I asked to if
I could see and he said it was much hotter then the normal butane! One of the clerks said,
"Come here, Joe." Sure enough, they had more, at $27.00BZ/$13.50US a bottle. I sprung
for it and will see if I can braze with it, per Bill, W4PAL. He called it MAPP, but here,
it is MAP.

On 10/4/2013 12:35 PM, cloud runner wrote:

Larger diameter wts allows the weight that you have to be moved further out from the
mainspring. Adding more weights of a smaller diameter of necessity closer to the pendulum,
does very little to slow the bug. Sure, using heavier material for the same design will
slow the bug, but I think what is desirable more than simply slowing, is a wider range.
think of the weights on the 1936 McElroy bug. this bug will go both much slower and faster.
The trade-off is that speed is more sensitive to placement.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/251342069089?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

there's one where you can see what I am talking about

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize

011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1986. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 04:21:18 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1963  Message: 1986

I am hoping to acquire a Vibroplex double lever one day. I did acquire
an Australian Buzza 100 double lever and love it. I just have to put in
some TLC time
with it and I suspect it will be one of my favourites.

On 10/4/2013 6:41 PM, Steve wrote:
> I happen to have a nice 1936A I use daily and it's the smoothest bug
> I've ever used. I believe the separate pivot for the dash lever was a
> superior design over vibroplex but maybe the cost became too much for
> Ted and his 1938 model was just another vibroplex clone.
> Steve N4LQ

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1987. Re Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 14:11:27 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1987  Message: 1987

There are two forms of the Buzza 100. one has a single pivot, the other has two. I had the latter and it was a wonderful bug. A friend wanted it very badly, so I let him have it. It might have liked that replacement square weight, that is, just a little more weight than came with it.

The Vibroplex Double Lever can be tricky to use. Normally, it is possible for the dash lever to be closed when still trying to make dits, hence the dits can be covered up. ... but there is a way round it. If you observe the way finger pieces are mounted on them when fresh out of the attic, the dash finger piece is mounted on the inside and between the levers. The screw head then is very close to the dit lever. This can be adjusted so that the screw head actually contacts the dit lever and blocks the possibility of both dot and dash being closed at the same time eliminitating the problem. Double lllLever, by the way, was invented to deal with the percieved problem of "split dits." Split dits was when contact bounce turned the first dit of a series into two very short ones. The problem, however, was caused by the dit spring not being stiff enough. The problem, seen on the old keys, can be cured by putting a small piece of foam between the dit spring, shortening its length and thus stiffening it.

fred - ky5x

aka WS0TA

----- Original Message -----
From: "Joe V31JP" <v31jp1957@...>
To: <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2013 10:21 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Vibroplex weights, lengths

>I am hoping to acquire a Vibroplex double lever one day. I did acquire
> an Australian Buzza 100 double lever and love it. I just have to put in
> some TLC time
> with it and I suspect it will be one of my favourites.
>
> On 10/4/2013 6:41 PM, Steve wrote:
>> I happen to have a nice 1936A I use daily and it's the smoothest bug
>> I've ever used. I believe the separate pivot for the dash lever was a
>> superior design over vibroplex but maybe the cost became too much for
>> Ted and his 1938 model was just another vibroplex clone.
>> Steve N4LQ
>
> --

# 1988. Re: [cw_bugs] Re Vibroplex weights, lengths

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-05 15:30:08 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1987  Message: 1988

Interesting. Pete, W5PEH, who helped me acquire the Buzza, and I discussed the
weights on the Buzza keys. I would have to look back, if I kept/filed those emails,
but it appears they used a couple of different weights. Mine has the square weights,
but it seems like either Pete or someone else's Buzza had round weights. Mine actually
seemed to have a good range, but where the weight bat and spring attach using screws
was slipping down/sagging. One of the needed corrections. I will have to look closer at
the dash paddle when I go to the shop in a bit. I will take my dynamometre and compare
the dot tension on it as compared to some Vibroplex dot spring tensions. I have not even
started the evaluation/measurements on the Buzza as I am still trying to get caught here.

I can almost make the round weights, i.e. 3/4", but need to get some smaller 1/2 hard
brass rod stock to make the screws with. I could not believe how hard it is to get here.
Even the 3/4" drill rod was difficult until I gave them three names for "drill rod." Like
tooling steel rod, hardened steel rod, etc. With it, I am going to try and make rope
knurling wheels to make the knurled thumb nuts and screws, but need/want smaller
stock to make the blanks from as well as the split nuts to turn them with. I need an
arbour for splitting saws and some splitting saws and I can make the square weights
as well. I tried the MAP/butane gas last night with my propane torch and brazed our
deep fryer basket handle back together. Now to experiment with brazing a nut to
threaded stock.

Best get to work. And, Sidney wants to get on the computer. I need more computers!

Joe.

On 10/5/2013 8:11 AM, cloud runner wrote:
> There are two forms of the Buzza 100. one has a single pivot, the other has

> two. I had the latter and it was a wonderful bug. A friend wanted it very
> badly, so I let him have it. It might have liked that replacement square
> weight, that is, just a little more weight than came with it.
>
> The Vibroplex Double Lever can be tricky to use. Normally, it is possible
> for the dash lever to be closed when still trying to make dits, hence the
> dits can be covered up. ... but there is a way round it. If you observe the
> way finger pieces are mounted on them when fresh out of the attic, the dash
> finger piece is mounted on the inside and between the levers. The screw
> head then is very close to the dit lever. This can be adjusted so that the
> screw head actually contacts the dit lever and blocks the possibility of
> both dot and dash being closed at the same time eliminitating the problem.
> Double lllLever, by the way, was invented to deal with the percieved problem
> of "split dits." Split dits was when contact bounce turned the first dit of
> a series into two very short ones. The problem, however, was caused by the
> dit spring not being stiff enough. The problem, seen on the old keys, can
> be cured by putting a small piece of foam between the dit spring, shortening
> its length and thus stiffening it.
>
> fred - ky5x
>
> aka WS0TA

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1989. Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-06 17:04:53 UTC
From: <silvergak@...>
Topic: 1989  Message: 1989

I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no model #
Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info about this company.
HELP!
Spencer W1GAK

# 1990. Re: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-06 17:32:34 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1989  Message: 1990

There is no information ... but I just e-mailed you ALL that is known, and that comes from the original BOX in which mine was found. Let me know if you don't receive it.

fred - kt5x

----- Original Message -----
From: silvergak@...
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 06, 2013 11:04 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no model #
Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info about this company.
HELP!
Spencer W1GAK

# 1991. Re: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-06 18:43:19 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 1989  Message: 1991

Spencer
You need to hook up with Marty KB2HHW. He has a bug that he is pretty certain it's a Standard Radio but with no label. You guys could probably help each other.
Marty is at martyl@...

Steve N4LQ

On 10/6/2013 1:04 PM, silvergak@... wrote:
>
> I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no
> model #
> Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info
> about this company.
> HELP!
> Spencer W1GAK
>
>

# 1992. RE: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-06 19:01:44 UTC
From: José Ricardo Ahumada
Topic: 1989  Message: 1992

Hello

Perhaps we are talking about the same company

Standard Radio in Hauppauge, NY is a private company categorized underElectronic Parts. Our records show it was established in 1947 and incorporated in New York. Staff of approximately 20 to 49.

Products or Services.

Companies like Standard Radio usually offer: Electronicparts Cpcares Com, Electronis Parts, Wholesale Electronic Parts, Used Electronic Parts and Eletronics Parts.

73

José – LU1KAK

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] En nombre de Steve
Enviado el: domingo, 06 de octubre de 2013 03:43 p.m.
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com; martyl@...
Asunto: Re: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Spencer
You need to hook up with Marty KB2HHW. He has a bug that he is pretty certain it's a Standard Radio but with no label. You guys could probably help each other.
Marty is at martyl@...

Steve N4LQ

On 10/6/2013 1:04 PM, silvergak@... wrote:

I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no model #
Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info about this company.
HELP!
Spencer W1GAK

# 1993. Re: Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-06 19:54:48 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1989  Message: 1993
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

No, it isn't.

My Standard Radio Bug came in its original box. The box was clearly marked ... the key was made by special order of the Army Air Corps in 1943 for exactly 1,500 keys. The earliest ones had old Vibroplex parts, so I am guessing the order was given to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex didn't want it. Instead they put one of their people in charge of producing the keys for the war effort under this subsidiary which was disbanded soon after.

there are no ads for this key.

All keys without a label were keys produced for that military order of 1,500. Most of these are found in dreaful rusted condition. The keys were made for use on bombers and transport planes and as far as I can find, were all used in the Pacific Theatre. They were made in black, green, and maroon. The split post would hold its adjustment even in the vibrating plane. The stout parts wouldn't bend when the key fell off the table in a steep bank or when the plane was jarred by a flak explosion.

All keys WITH a label were produced for private orders and serials begin at 1,501. Highest serial found is about 2,000. These were made in black, green, maroon and chrome.

I have photographs of about 30 of them, and am glad to see photos of any others!

73, Fred - kt5x

here is mine (again)

----- Original Message -----
From: José Ricardo Ahumada
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, October 06, 2013 1:01 PM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Hello

Perhaps we are talking about the same company

Standard Radio in Hauppauge, NY is a private company categorized underElectronic Parts. Our records show it was established in 1947 and incorporated in New York. Staff of approximately 20 to 49.

Products or Services.

Companies like Standard Radio usually offer: Electronicparts Cpcares Com, Electronis Parts, Wholesale Electronic Parts, Used Electronic Parts and Eletronics Parts.

73

José – LU1KAK

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] En nombre de Steve
Enviado el: domingo, 06 de octubre de 2013 03:43 p.m.
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com; martyl@...
Asunto: Re: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio

Spencer
You need to hook up with Marty KB2HHW. He has a bug that he is pretty certain it's a Standard Radio but with no label. You guys could probably help each other.
Marty is at martyl@...

Steve N4LQ

On 10/6/2013 1:04 PM, silvergak@... wrote:

I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no model #
Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info about this company.
HELP!
Spencer W1GAK

# 1994. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-07 06:01:57 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 1989  Message: 1994
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Ugly key, "Trade you a buck for it."

David the Liar

Book of Dot Dash 1:3 "Thou shalt not covet thine naybor's bugs lest thee become a pestilence to thine own."
On Oct 6, 2013 3:53 PM, "cloud runner" <just.one.hill@gmail.com> wrote:

> □**
>
>
> No, it isn't.
>
> My Standard Radio Bug came in its original box. The box was clearly
> marked ... the key was made by special order of the Army Air Corps in 1943
> for exactly 1,500 keys. The earliest ones had old Vibroplex parts, so I am
> guessing the order was given to Vibroplex, and Vibroplex didn't want it.
> Instead they put one of their people in charge of producing the keys for
> the war effort under this subsidiary which was disbanded soon after.
>
> there are no ads for this key.
>
> All keys without a label were keys produced for that military order of
> 1,500. Most of these are found in dreaful rusted condition. The keys were
> made for use on bombers and transport planes and as far as I can find, were
> all used in the Pacific Theatre. They were made in black, green, and
> maroon. The split post would hold its adjustment even in the vibrating
> plane. The stout parts wouldn't bend when the key fell off the table in a
> steep bank or when the plane was jarred by a flak explosion.
>
> All keys WITH a label were produced for private orders and serials begin
> at 1,501. Highest serial found is about 2,000. These were made in black,
> green, maroon and chrome.
>
> I have photographs of about 30 of them, and am glad to see photos of any
> others!
>
> 73, Fred - kt5x
>
> here is mine (again)
>
>
>
>

> ----- Original Message -----
> *From:* José Ricardo Ahumada <jralu1kak@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Sunday, October 06, 2013 1:01 PM
> *Subject:* RE: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio
>
>
>
> Hello****
>
> Perhaps we are talking about the same company****
>
> Standard Radio in Hauppauge, NY is a private company categorized
> underElectronic Parts. Our records show it was established in 1947 and
> incorporated in New York. Staff of approximately 20 to 49. ****
>
> Products or Services.****
>
> Companies like Standard Radio usually offer: Electronicparts Cpcares Com,
> Electronis Parts, Wholesale Electronic Parts, Used Electronic Parts and
> Eletronics Parts.****
>
> 73****
>
> José – LU1KAK****
>
> ****
>
> *De:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] *En nombre
> de *Steve
> *Enviado el:* domingo, 06 de octubre de 2013 03:43 p.m.
> *Para:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com; martyl@...
> *Asunto:* Re: [cw_bugs] Standard Radio****
>
> ****
>
> ****
>
> Spencer
> You need to hook up with Marty KB2HHW. He has a bug that he is pretty
> certain it's a Standard Radio but with no label. You guys could probably
> help each other.
> Marty is at martyl@...
>
> Steve N4LQ****
>
> On 10/6/2013 1:04 PM, silvergak@... wrote:****
>
> ****

>
> I have acquired a Standard Radio Co. New York, bug. Serial #1538 no model #
> Nickle plated works good but needs cleaning. I can't find any info about
> this company.
> HELP!
> Spencer W1GAK****
>
> ****
>
> ****
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 1995. Re: Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-07 13:35:29 UTC
From: cloud runner
Topic: 1989  Message: 1995

Ugly key, "Trade you a buck for it."

David the Liar

TNX, David! I have actually restored two of these bugs. The caretaker for the other one is now John, and it can be seen here (along with the rest of his outstanding collection)

< http://morsemad.com/src.htm >

# 1996. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Standard Radio

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-07 15:54:09 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 1989  Message: 1996

Love the quote from the Book of Dot Dash!

On 10/7/2013 12:01 AM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. wrote:
>
> Ugly key, "Trade you a buck for it."
>
> David the Liar
>
> Book of Dot Dash 1:3 "Thou shalt not covet thine naybor's bugs lest
> thee become a pestilence to thine own."
>
> On Oct 6, 2013 3:53 PM, "cloud runner" <just.one.hill@...
> <mailto:just.one.hill@...>> wrote:
>
> □
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 1997. RFTB Tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-10-20 19:13:03 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 1173  Message: 1997

Tonight is the October 2013 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 1998. WTB- Paddle and Knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-11-19 22:07:06 UTC
From: <lowpowerop@...>
Topic: 1998  Message: 1998

Looking for a black paddle and knob for right handers that will fit the Vibroplex Original Standard.

State price and condition.

# 1999. test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 19:02:25 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 1999  Message: 1999

Ve6qx

# 2000. Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 19:49:40 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000  Message: 2000

Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts  on this.. I hope I can explain myself here.....

  I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs..  Now the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and down movement..  You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers..  I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943  The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch..
 That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit..  Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug.  .....SMOOTH.....  Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller.. ???  maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..

  Tnx very much for reading this dribble  but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...

 Dwayne  Ve6qx

# 2001. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 20:19:35 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 2000  Message: 2001

Yes, I have contrived a reduction in the apertures in the dash-lever. I did it by drilling them out bigger, and pressing in slightly longer brass tubes or bushes which fitted the spindle beautifully. The bits of brass came from a light-switch [ours used to built like battleships; now, they're more like paper boats], and were a perfect fit. A glob of epoxy resin secured the new bushes, and it transformed the 'feel' of the old pre-war vibroplex for me. Now, I have, at last, a McElroy. It's the difference between a Trabant and a Bentley. The bad news is, years of Electric Bugs has destroyed my timing, and old age and arthritis too have taken their toll.

If someone made me a key with perfect pivots, I'd still generate fists-full of QSD !

73 de Mort, G2JL

# 2002. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 20:35:22 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000 Message: 2002

Ok fb Mort.. tnx for the quick reply.. I think I might try and do something like this,, Boy Vibroplex sure didn't do them salves any favors by constructing them this way, I can't see it costing anymore to tighten up on the tolerance's..

Anyways Later 73

Dwayne

On Tuesday, December 24, 2013 1:19 PM, "Mort, G2JL" <mort.g2jl@...> wrote:

Yes, I
have contrived a reduction in
the apertures in the dash-lever. I did it by drilling them out
bigger, and pressing in slightly longer brass tubes or bushes which fitted
the spindle beautifully. The bits of brass came from a light-switch [ours
used to built like battleships; now, they're more like paper
boats], and were a perfect fit. A glob of epoxy resin secured the
new bushes, and it transformed the 'feel' of the old pre-war vibroplex for
me. Now, I have, at last, a McElroy. It's the difference
between a Trabant and a Bentley. The bad news is, years of Electric
Bugs has destroyed my timing, and old age and arthritis too have
taken their toll.

If someone made me a key with perfect
pivots, I'd still generate fists-full of QSD !

73 de Mort,
G2JL

# 2003. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 21:08:27 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2000  Message: 2003

Dwayne,
Never hit it with a hammer! I don't know about the newer Vibroplex bugs
but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in the
frame that holds the main arm. Adjusting the nuts should take out the
play. If not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the
frame. You never what people do to stuff.
73, George
W2GS
On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
> Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I
> hope I can explain myself here.....
>
> I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so
> the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now
> the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows
> lots of play, up and down movement.. You can get used to this and
> life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers..
> I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that
> was manufactured in 1943 The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller
> and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch.. That's when I
> figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit.. Much easier and
> comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug. .........SMOOTH........
> Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller..
> ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>
> Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this
> old bug and newer one is a big...
>
> Dwayne Ve6qx
>

# 2004. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 21:28:26 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000  Message: 2004

Hi George.. No I don't think I would do that, I mean with the hammer.. This bug is new in the last 10 or 15 years..  and I'am talking about the vertical shaft that goe's thru the bar of steel that is the dit pendulum and the dah pendulum. The holes in these pivoting pendulum could be a lot smaller( in diameter) and there wouldn't be so much up and down (vertical) movement.. makimg the bug a lot tighter and nicer to operate..  This Hammer comment comes out of frustration for a job that could have been done a lot better..  This quality probably would have kept the respect level up there for this product and wouldn't have cost anymore to make...
Anyways the way of the new modern world..  C u later and have a Merry Christmas..

Dwayne  Ve6qx

On Tuesday, December 24, 2013 2:08 PM, George <at6c@...> wrote:

Dwayne,
Never hit it with a hammer!  I don't know about the newer Vibroplex bugs but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in the frame that holds the main arm.  Adjusting the nuts should take out the play.  If not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the frame.  You never what people do to stuff.
73, George
W2GS

On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:

>Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts  on this.. I hope I can explain myself here.....
>
>
>  I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs..  Now the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and down movement..  You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers..  I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943  The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch.. That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit..  Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug.  .....SMOOTH.....  Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller.. ???  maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>
>
>  Tnx very much for reading this dribble  but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...
>
>
>

> Dwayne Ve6qx

# 2005. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 21:50:23 UTC
From: Donnie Garrett (WA9TGT)
Topic: 2000  Message: 2005

George:
I think Dwayne is referring to slop in the fit where the trunion axel (vertical axel shaft) passes through the the actual lever body. This is usually a press in fit of the axel shaft being about .0004" larger than the reamed hole it passes through in the main lever.

Donnie

SKCC #10784
Sent from my iPad Air

> On Dec 24, 2013, at 4:08 PM, George <at6c@bellsouth.net> wrote:
>
> Dwayne,
> Never hit it with a hammer! I don't know about the newer Vibroplex bugs but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in the frame that holds the main arm. Adjusting the nuts should take out the play. If not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the frame. You never what people do to stuff.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>> On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
>>
>> Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I hope I can explain myself here.....
>>
>> I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and down movement.. You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers.. I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943 The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch.. That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit.. Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug. .........SMOOTH..... Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller.. ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>>
>> Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...
>>
>>
>> Dwayne Ve6qx
>
>

# 2006. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 22:09:51 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2000  Message: 2006

Mort,

Merry Christmas!

While I have several bugs, my favorite is one built for me by Tom Withers, G3HGE. It’s called the Olympic (http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html) and I truly enjoy the way it handles. Like you, age and rheumatoid arthritis play havoc, but this bug helps hide my inadequacy.

Your modification is similar to one I copied (“the bug tamer”) and used on my Vibroplex original.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Mort, G2JL
Sent: Tuesday, December 24, 2013 12:19 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yes, I have contrived a reduction in the apertures in the dash-lever. I did it by drilling them out bigger, and pressing in slightly longer brass tubes or bushes which fitted the spindle beautifully. The bits of brass came from a light-switch [ours used to built like battleships; now, they're more like paper boats], and were a perfect fit. A glob of epoxy resin secured the new bushes, and it transformed the 'feel' of the old pre-war vibroplex for me. Now, I have, at last, a McElroy. It's the difference between a Trabant and a Bentley. The bad news is, years of Electric Bugs has destroyed my timing, and old age and arthritis too have taken their toll.

If someone made me a key with perfect pivots, I'd still generate fists-full of QSD !

73 de Mort, G2JL

# 2007. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 22:12:04 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 2000  Message: 2007

Adjustments don't help on the Vibroplex design. Yes it takes care of the main lever but the dash lever just sorta hangs on the pivot and most of them have considerable SLOP. The only model that seems tight are is the Presentation (pre Alabama or Knoxville). Everyone that copied their design had lots of slop and often even worse.
I have a 1934 McElroy with separate pivots for dots and dashes and both are adjustable. I can get the slop out of that one but Mac came out with the Vibroplex design in 38 and in came the slop!

Steve N4LQ

On 12/24/2013 4:08 PM, George wrote:
>
> Dwayne,
> Never hit it with a hammer! I don't know about the newer Vibroplex
> bugs but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in
> the frame that holds the main arm. Adjusting the nuts should take out
> the play. If not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the
> frame. You never what people do to stuff.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
>> Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I
>> hope I can explain myself here.....
>>
>> I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so
>> the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now
>> the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows
>> lots of play, up and down movement.. You can get used to this and
>> life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers..
>> I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug
>> that was manufactured in 1943 The hole in this pendulum is a much
>> smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch..
>> That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit.. Much
>> easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug.
>> .........SMOOTH........ Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying
>> to make the hole smaller.. ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and
>> large hammer..
>>
>> Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this
>> old bug and newer one is a big...
>>
>> Dwayne Ve6qx
>

>

# 2008. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 22:36:09 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 2000  Message: 2008

Thanks, Troy !

Tom makes a beautiful job, but he uses golden tools and employs Indian Princes as workmen...

The Begali bug is a delight, but then, so would Elisabeth Taylor have been, but beyond my means !

MZ & HNY - Mort, G2JL

# 2009. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-24 22:44:11 UTC
From: Donnie Garrett (WA9TGT)
Topic: 2000  Message: 2009

Ive found the machining on the older Vibroplex bugs to be very poor. Holes drilled and tapped crooked, base holes slightly mis-located in some cases, feet of the damper and mainframe not square with their body, overall machining quality was kinda bad.

Vibroplex's machining quality seemed to improved somewhat on bugs with the later mainframe design that appeared in 1945>

I do agree with you Steve about the slop present in most of the dash levers. Some are better than others.

On the bugs I have built I drill and ream the the main lever axel / dash arm hole together in one pass, then later re-ream only the dash levers 2 ears holes .001" larger for clearance.

Donnie / WA9TGT

SKCC #10784
Sent from my iPad Air

> On Dec 24, 2013, at 5:12 PM, Steve <n4lq@...> wrote:
>
> Adjustments don't help on the Vibroplex design. Yes it takes care of the main lever but the dash lever just sorta hangs on the pivot and most of them have considerable SLOP. The only model that seems tight are is the Presentation (pre Alabama or Knoxville). Everyone that copied their design had lots of slop and often even worse.
> I have a 1934 McElroy with separate pivots for dots and dashes and both are adjustable. I can get the slop out of that one but Mac came out with the Vibroplex design in 38 and in came the slop!
>
> Steve N4LQ
>
>
>> On 12/24/2013 4:08 PM, George wrote:
>>
>> Dwayne,
>> Never hit it with a hammer! I don't know about the newer Vibroplex bugs but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in the frame that holds the main arm. Adjusting the nuts should take out the play. If not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the frame. You never what people do to stuff.
>> 73, George
>> W2GS
>>> On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
>>>
>>> Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I hope I can explain myself here.....
>>>

>>> I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and down movement.. You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers.. I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943 The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch.. That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit.. Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug. .....SMOOTH..... Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller.. ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>>>
>>> Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...
>>>
>>>
>>> Dwayne Ve6qx
>
>

# 2010. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 00:17:16 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2000  Message: 2010

After reading the several replies, Dwayne, I now believe you are saying that the hole in the lever bar for the pivot pin or arbour is loose and this is not as it should be. Most arbours are a press fit, though some years there was a screw beside the hole that captured the arbour/pivot pin. Now, the hole trough the yoke (dash lever) is looser, but it is held vertically on the pinion by the lever bar. To move the pivot bar, I have to use small pry bars except for those held by a screw, to position the bar, up or down.

If I am correct with what you said and there is no screw to hold it in place, you can careful dimple the 'brass' lever bar on the top and on the bottom beside the arbour/pivot pin hole and this will tighten it up. This should not be loose at all.

Have you owned this key since new? I have seen where someone has polished the arbour and removed enough material, the pin was loose. I either replace the arbour/pivot pin or swag the lever bar (dimple) it to tighten it. Those without the tooling or skill, can buy a new lever bar from Vibroplex.

On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
> Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I
> hope I can explain myself here.....
>
> I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the
> main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now the
> hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of
> play, up and down movement.. You can get used to this and life goes
> on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers.. I never
> did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was
> manufactured in 1943 The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and
> ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch.. That's when I
> figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit.. Much easier and
> comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug. .........SMOOTH........
> Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller..
> ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>
> Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this old
> bug and newer one is a big...
>
> Dwayne Ve6qx

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize

011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2011. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 13:03:24 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000  Message: 2011

Hi Joe (v31jp),,  What I mean Joe is the hole drilled in the horizontal leaver that you put weights on to slow the speed..  My new vibroplex bug is a Original  Deluxe , can be seen on the vibroplex page.. And hole drilled in the ears that hold the main lever that make the dits. There is a vertical shaft that goes thru these holes and the ears pivot or turn on this shaft to make the dahs and allso the main lever pivots or turns the other direction to make the dits. This vertical shaft can be adjusted up and down for the proper aligning of the contacts for the dits es dahs.The shaft carries the weight of the dah and the dit assembly.  And the shaft runs directly down from the Jewel. The same on my old 1943 mod. original standard..

Now the holes in the ears for the dahs and the hole drilled in the lever that carries the weights  are drilled out to large on the new key the Original Deluxe  Making it possible to move the assembly up and down with the paddles, you can still use the bug but after getting the feel on the old bug it is like night and day for comfort of operatinghttp://vintagevibroplex.com/#orig  My old bug is No#113Brg.. The new bug that I'am disappointed in is here http://www.vibroplex.com/  Had the manufacture drilled these holes a thousand or half a thousand larger then the shaft(instead of two or three thou. the vertical shaft would be tighter fitting.And with a drop of oil every twenty years.. this bug  would operate like the diff. between Lincoln and a V W Beattle..

For the first ten working years of my life I was a Heavy duty mechanic then after that I bought one of the excavating machines that I fixed and went on my own in a excavating buz. and now finding it harder to retire then to work.. Hi...  I hope all this makes sense

Tnx very much to everyone that replied.. I think Mort G2JL understood me

Happy New Year all  Dwayne  Ve6qx

On Tuesday, December 24, 2013 5:18 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@gmail.com> wrote:

After reading the several replies, Dwayne, I now believe you are saying that the hole in the lever bar for the pivot pin or arbour
is loose and this is not as it should be. Most arbours are a press
fit, though some years there was a screw beside the hole that
captured the arbour/pivot pin.  Now, the hole trough the yoke (dash
lever) is looser, but it is held vertically on the pinion by the
lever bar. To move the pivot bar, I have to use small pry bars
except for those held by a screw, to position the bar, up or down.

If I am correct with what you said and there is no screw to hold it
in place, you can careful dimple the 'brass' lever bar on the top
and on the bottom beside the arbour/pivot pin hole and this will
tighten it up.  This should not be loose at all.

Have you owned this key since new? I have seen where someone has
polished the arbour and removed enough material, the
pin was loose.  I either replace the arbour/pivot pin or swag the

lever bar (dimple) it to tighten it.  Those without the tooling or
skill,
can buy a new lever bar from Vibroplex.

On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:

Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts  on this.. I hope I can explain myself here.....
>
>
>  I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs..  Now the hole in the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and down movement..  You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers..  I never did like this.... but accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943  The hole in this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of thousands of a inch..
 That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a bit..  Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug.  .....SMOOTH.....  Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the hole smaller.. ???  maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..
>
>
>  Tnx very much for reading this dribble  but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...
>
>
>
> Dwayne  Ve6qx

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2012. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 16:06:33 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2000 Message: 2012

Good morning and Merry Christmas, Dwayne.

First, I would recommend you look at the mechanical drawing for the Vibroplex Original and the parts list on the Vibroplex web site. Each part has a name and it makes it much easier when you describe a part using it's proper name. The bar that the trunion pin is pressed into is the 'lever bar.' The 'trunion pin' is press fitted into the 'lever bar' and should not be loose. As you describe this as your 'new' Original Deluxe, I would contact Vibroplex about replacing that 'lever bar' as it should not be loose at all.
I use two pry bars to adjust the lever bar height or remove that pin. I have Originals dating from 1912 and several various model Vibroplex speed keys dating in between then and up to 1955 and refurbished/restored many in the same range. None have loose trunion pins except one and it had been rusted. I had to remove it and turn a new trunion pin to fit. What I have seen is, the yoke becomes worn over the years and then becomes sloppy. One, I had the holes brazed shut, drilled new holes and then plated the yoke assembly. The yoke ear holes are not a really tight fit and never has been. Even the worn open holes like in my well used 1920 Junior functions very well to this day.

In your case, I suspect the pin is a little under sized in diameter. As Vibroplex sells that as a lever bar assembly, I suspect that is to attempt to prevent a misfit, but it happened in your case when the key was manufactured. Cold or hot day may have covered up the problem when assembled. To cure it yourself, there are a couple ways. You can swag the brass of 'lever bar' using a small pointed punch right next to the trunion pin. This is not easy as you do not want to cause the closing of the yoke ears.
You have to support the lever bar on each side of the yoke ears. But, I would contact Vibroplex first to see if they will resolve that for you. As a Deluxe with the jewelled pivots, it should be a really smooth sending key, Dwayne.

I have seen miss aligned holes in the main frame such that the lever bar tilts up or down or has a slight side ways twist. These were more prevalent in older keys then in more current years. They were very functional and remember, these are a telegrapher's tool, not an art piece.

I hope this helps you.

On 12/25/2013 7:03 AM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
> Hi Joe (v31jp),, What I mean Joe is the hole drilled in the
> horizontal leaver that you put weights on to slow the speed.. My new
> vibroplex bug is a Original Deluxe , can be seen on the vibroplex
> page.. And hole drilled in the ears that hold the main lever that make
> the dits. There is a vertical shaft that goes thru these holes and the
> ears pivot or turn on this shaft to make the dahs and allso the main
> lever pivots or turns the other direction to make the dits. This
> vertical shaft can be adjusted up and down for the proper aligning of
> the contacts for the dits es dahs.The shaft carries the weight of the
> dah and the dit assembly. And the shaft runs directly down from the
> Jewel. The same on my old 1943 mod. original standard..
> Now the holes in the ears for the dahs and the hole drilled in the
> lever that carries the weights are drilled out to large on the new
> key the Original Deluxe Making it possible to move the assembly up
> and down with the paddles, you can still use the bug but after getting
> the feel on the old bug it is like night and day for comfort of
> operatinghttp://vintagevibroplex.com/#orig My old bug is No#113Brg..
> The new bug that I'am disappointed in is here
> http://www.vibroplex.com/ Had the manufacture drilled these holes a
> thousand or half a thousand larger then the shaft(instead of two or
> three thou. the vertical shaft would be tighter fitting.And with a
> drop of oil every twenty years.. this bug would operate like the
> diff. between Lincoln and a V W Beattle..
>
> For the first ten working years of my life I was a Heavy duty
> mechanic then after that I bought one of the excavating machines that
> I fixed and went on my own in a excavating buz. and now finding it
> harder to retire then to work.. Hi... I hope all this makes sense
> Tnx very much to everyone that replied.. I think Mort G2JL understood me
>
> Happy New Year all Dwayne Ve6qx

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2013. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 17:18:43 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000  Message: 2013

Joe..
Your right , I just finished taking this new bug a part and turns out the lock #29 screw was lose so I adjusted (tightened)#30 sum and this made world of difference.. Tnx Joe for not giving up on me...
Until I found the exploded view of the bug and parts list I was sure that #11 was a lose fit.. Works much better now.
I Knew I seen the exploded view somewhere before but couldn't find it till you pointed it out..
Anyways Tnx very much..
Dwayne Ve6qx

On Wednesday, December 25, 2013 9:08 AM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

Good morning and Merry Christmas, Dwayne.

First, I would recommend you look at the mechanical drawing for the Vibroplex Original and the parts list on the Vibroplex web site. Each part has a name and it makes it much easier when you describe a part using it's proper name. The bar that the trunion pin is pressed into is the 'lever bar.' The 'trunion pin' is press fitted into the 'lever bar' and should not be loose. As you describe this as your 'new' Original Deluxe, I would contact Vibroplex about replacing that 'lever bar' as it should not be loose at all.
I use two pry bars to adjust the lever bar height or remove that pin. I have Originals dating from 1912 and several various model Vibroplex speed keys dating in between then and up to 1955 and refurbished/restored many in the same range. None have loose trunion pins except one and it had been rusted. I had to remove it and turn a new trunion pin to fit. What I have seen is, the yoke becomes worn over the years and then becomes sloppy. One, I had the holes brazed shut, drilled new holes and then plated the yoke assembly. The yoke ear holes are not a really tight fit and never has been. Even the worn open holes like in my well used 1920 Junior functions very well to this day.

In your case, I suspect the pin is a little under sized in diameter. As Vibroplex sells that as a lever bar assembly, I suspect that is to attempt to prevent a misfit, but it happened in your case when the key was manufactured. Cold or hot day may have covered up the problem when assembled. To cure it yourself, there are a couple ways. You can swag the brass of 'lever bar' using a small pointed punch right next to the trunion pin. This is not easy as you do not want to

cause the closing of the yoke ears.
You have to support the lever bar on each side of the yoke ears.
But, I would contact Vibroplex first to see if they will resolve
that for you.  As a Deluxe with the jewelled
pivots, it should be a really smooth sending key, Dwayne.

I have seen miss aligned holes in the main frame such that the lever
bar tilts up or down or has a slight side ways twist.  These were
more prevalent in older keys then in
more current years.  They were very functional and remember, these
are a telegrapher's tool, not an art piece.

I hope this helps you.

On 12/25/2013 7:03 AM, Dwayne Genung wrote:

Hi Joe (v31jp),,  What I mean Joe is the hole drilled in the horizontal leaver that you put weights on to slow the speed..  My new vibroplex bug is a Original  Deluxe , can be seen on the vibroplex page.. And hole drilled in the ears that hold the main lever that make the dits. There is a vertical shaft that goes thru these holes and the ears pivot or turn on this shaft to make the dahs and allso the main lever pivots or turns the other direction to make the dits. This vertical shaft can be adjusted up and down for the proper aligning of the contacts for the dits es dahs.The shaft carries the weight of the dah and the dit assembly.  And the shaft runs directly down from the Jewel. The same on my old 1943 mod. original standard..
>  Now the holes in the ears for the dahs and the hole drilled in the lever that carries the weights  are drilled out to large on the new key the Original Deluxe  Making it possible to move the assembly up and down with the paddles, you can still use the bug but after getting the feel on the old bug it is like night and day for comfort of operatinghttp://vintagevibroplex.com/#orig  My old bug is No#113Brg.. The new bug that I'am disappointed in is here http://www.vibroplex.com/  Had the manufacture drilled these holes a thousand or half a thousand larger then the shaft(instead of two or three thou.
 the vertical shaft would be tighter fitting.And with a drop of oil every twenty years..
 this bug  would operate like the diff. between Lincoln and a V W Beattle..
>
>
>  For the first ten working years of my life I was a Heavy duty mechanic then after that I bought one of the excavating machines that I fixed and went on my own in a excavating buz. and now finding it harder to retire then to work.. Hi...  I hope all this makes sense

> Tnx very much to everyone that replied.. I think Mort G2JL understood me
>
>
>  Happy New Year all  Dwayne  Ve6qx

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)

or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2014. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 18:01:37 UTC
From: k4oso@...
Topic: 2000  Message: 2014

Sending with a bug is an excersise in SLOP, with some disciplined
oscillation thrown in. I find the best SLOP remover is my fist.
Decades of fine bug operators have successfully dealt with the Vibroplex
design so, I'll conclude that experience is the main component in fine bug
sending. So, why not get on the air more often with that bug and get some!
Merry Christmas to all, and a Happy New Year.
Milt K4OSO in chilly Rockville, VA.

In a message dated 12/24/2013 5:12:04 PM Eastern Standard Time,
n4lq@... writes:

Adjustments don't help on the Vibroplex design. Yes it takes care of the
main lever but the dash lever just sorta hangs on the pivot and most of them
have considerable SLOP. The only model that seems tight are is the
Presentation (pre Alabama or Knoxville). Everyone that copied their design had
lots of slop and often even worse.
I have a 1934 McElroy with separate pivots for dots and dashes and both
are adjustable. I can get the slop out of that one but Mac came out with the
Vibroplex design in 38 and in came the slop!

Steve N4LQ

On 12/24/2013 4:08 PM, George wrote:

Dwayne,
Never hit it with a hammer! I don't know about the newer Vibroplex bugs
but mine (crica 1960s) have conical pivots and adjusting nuts in the frame
that holds the main arm. Adjusting the nuts should take out the play. If
not contact Vibroplex there may be a part missing in the frame. You never
what people do to stuff.
73, George
W2GS
On 12/24/2013 1:49 PM, Dwayne Genung wrote:

Hi just recent new member.. I would like some thoughts on this.. I hope I
can explain myself here.....

I'am talking about the hole that the main pivot shaft goes thru so the
main pendulum can pivot back and forth with dits or dahs.. Now the hole in
the main pendulum (in my opinion) is to big and allows lots of play, up and
down movement.. You can get used to this and life goes on... Thats on
recent made vibroplex bugs and vibrokeyers.. I never did like this.... but
accepted it, till I received a bug that was manufactured in 1943 The hole in
this pendulum is a much smaller and ther is only maybe a couple of
thousands of a inch.. That's when I figured the late manufacturing has slipped a
bit.. Much easier and comfortable to send on this old (1943) bug.
.........SMOOTH........ Has anyone gone to the trouble of trying to make the

hole smaller.. ??? maybe a good slap with a drift and large hammer..

Tnx very much for reading this dribble but the diff between this old bug and newer one is a big...

Dwayne Ve6qx

# 2015. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 18:14:13 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 2000  Message: 2015

I was clearly up a creek with my two-cents'-worth (not even that, even taking inflation into account) of ill-advice; I apologise for any deception. I thought you were referring to the gross sloppiness of the dash-lever on the main spindle, which is tolerated by most users, and which the makers are unashamed of.

Anyhow, good luck with the thing. The main problem with all buggery lies within the nut impinging upon the finger-pieces.

MX & HNY - Mort, G2JL

# 2016. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 18:13:46 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2000  Message: 2016

Ah, ha! Then it is a Merry Christmas for you, Dwayne.

I am glad that looking at the parts break down gave you a clue to the problem. With the Deluxe, be very careful to not over tighten the trunion screws
as the jewels inside the pivot screws can be crushed. That is why they changed the top screw to make it difficult to adjust after the factory.

Now, get on with enjoying your key. Now, I am off to do a plumbing job this morning. Argh!

On 12/25/2013 11:18 AM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
> Joe..
> Your right , I just finished taking this new bug a part and
> turns out the lock #29 screw was lose so I adjusted (tightened)#30
> sum and this made world of difference.. Tnx Joe for not giving up
> on me...
> Until I found the exploded view of the bug and parts list I was sure
> that #11 was a lose fit.. Works much better now.
> I Knew I seen the exploded view somewhere before but couldn't find it
> till you pointed it out..
> Anyways Tnx very much..
> Dwayne Ve6qx

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2017. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 18:23:08 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2000  Message: 2017

I resemble that insinuation, Mort.

I just went to the shop to buy some potatoes and the police shut them
all down! Why? Because they sell alcohol! No potatoes until 6PM.
If I can hear over the local QRN. Santa brought the boys toy electronic
machine guns and not so smart Santa put the batteries in.
May you and Mary have a wonderful Christmas and we hope the New Year is
grand for you.

Ouch! I was drill by two machine guns!

On 12/25/2013 12:14 PM, Mort, G2JL wrote:
> Anyhow, good luck with the thing. The main problem with all buggery
> lies within the nut impinging upon the finger-pieces.
> MX & HNY - Mort, G2JL

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2018. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 18:42:17 UTC
From: Mort, G2JL
Topic: 2000  Message: 2018

Thanks, Joe !

The festivities are largely over, now, at 6:40 PM & XYL & daughter are watching some dank TV programme. There is little on the bands, so I think I'll struggle with the crossword-puzzles and some red VK beverage they call wine. Apparently, it's 100 years since the first puzzle, the work of an Englishman (well, he came from Liverpool, in fact) appeared in a New York paper.

The 'Mephisto' in the Sunday Times has words in it you can only infer from the clues, and check for their existence in Chamber's Dictionary. I mean, TREHALA and CEVAPCICI and DIMITY and BOOGALOO. Enough to give anybody brain-ache !

Here's wishing you a merry time, and I do so hope you enjoy the plumbing...

QAC de Mort, G2JL

# 2019. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-25 20:54:07 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2000  Message: 2019

Joe... Be carefull I don't over tighten and crush the jewell's

I hope you had as much fun with the plumbing as you are here.. Hi Hi

Hope to c u on the air oneday...NOT TO FAST WUTH THaT BUG.....

Dwayne

On Wednesday, December 25, 2013 11:42 AM, "Mort, G2JL" <mort.g2jl@...> wrote:

☐
Thanks, Joe !

The festivities are largely
over, now, at 6:40 PM & XYL & daughter are watching some dank TV
programme. There is little on the bands, so I think I'll struggle
with the crossword-puzzles and some red VK beverage they callwine. Apparently, it's 100
years since the first puzzle,
the work of an Englishman (well, he came from Liverpool, in fact)
appeared in a New York paper.

The 'Mephisto' in the Sunday Times has
words in it you can only infer from the clues, and check for their
existence in Chamber's Dictionary. I mean, TREHALA and CEVAPCICI and
DIMITY and BOOGALOO. Enough to give anybody brain-ache !

Here's wishing you a merry time, and
I do so hope you enjoy the plumbing...

QAC de Mort, G2JL

# 2020. test

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-26 01:28:03 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 1999  Message: 2020

ve6qx

# 2021. 1944 Original Standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-26 19:44:46 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2021  Message: 2021

Hi everyone... Dwayne here VE6QX..... I don't know what my chances are... But looking for the switch assembly for tuning rig.... Item "F" on the exploded view parts diagram on the vibroplex page....

My original standard had it when new cause it still has the part that goes under the DAH contact post... I see vibroplex doesn't provide it anymore... I think I would like one that has a bit of age on it rather then shiny and new....

Tnx and Happy New year to all and especially to those that are concerned about over tightening and crushing the jewels.....

Dwayne

# 2022. Fw: 1944 Original Standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-27 16:39:56 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2022  Message: 2022

Tnx for the reply on that Benny.. I kind'a knew that but I was trying to stay on the description that vibroplex says in that parts lay out..  This bug I got here was modified to work into a electronic key-er and have it back to normal..  And sure would like to get this circuit closer... Well guess I got a excuse to visit the flea markets now...  Take care and all the best in the new year....  Dwayne  Ve6qx

On Thursday, December 26, 2013 2:46 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...> wrote:

HI DEWAYNE

IT IS CALLED A CIRCUIT CLOSER.  IT WAS NEEDED FOR THE OLD TELEGRAPH CIRCUITS THAT OPERATED WITH ALL STATIONS CLOSED EXCEPT WHEN SENDING.  THEN SOME FOLKS LIKED TO USE THEM FOR TRANSMITTER TUNING ON RADIO CIRCUITS.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2023. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: 1944 Original Standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-27 17:39:41 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2022  Message: 2023

TRY VIBROPLEX. THEY MAY HAVE THEM?

On Fri, Dec 27, 2013 at 10:39 AM, Dwayne Genung <pt2500a@...> wrote:

>
>
> Tnx for the reply on that Benny.. I kind'a knew that but I was trying to
> stay on the description that vibroplex says in that parts lay out.. This
> bug I got here was modified to work into a electronic key-er and have it
> back to normal.. And sure would like to get this circuit closer... Well
> guess I got a excuse to visit the flea markets now... Take care and all
> the best in the new year.... Dwayne Ve6qx
>
>
> On Thursday, December 26, 2013 2:46 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
> wrote:
> HI DEWAYNE
>
> IT IS CALLED A CIRCUIT CLOSER. IT WAS NEEDED FOR THE OLD TELEGRAPH
> CIRCUITS THAT OPERATED WITH ALL STATIONS CLOSED EXCEPT WHEN SENDING. THEN
> SOME FOLKS LIKED TO USE THEM FOR TRANSMITTER TUNING ON RADIO CIRCUITS.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
>
>

# 2024. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: 1944 Original Standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-27 19:48:16 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2022  Message: 2024

Dwayne, I mad a couple, but I do not have any Delrin left. I will look
and see if I have some brass. I needed to order some wire to make
springs and to be honest,
I can't remember if I did or not and what gauge if I did. ? It has been
hectic down here lately. Mine were nickel plated.

On 12/27/2013 10:39 AM, Dwayne Genung wrote:
> Tnx for the reply on that Benny.. I kind'a knew that but I was
> trying to stay on the description that vibroplex says in that parts
> lay out.. This bug I got here was modified to work into a electronic
> key-er and have it back to normal.. And sure would like to get this
> circuit closer... Well guess I got a excuse to visit the flea markets
> now... Take care and all the best in the new year.... Dwayne Ve6qx
>
>
> On Thursday, December 26, 2013 2:46 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
> wrote:
> HI DEWAYNE
>
> IT IS CALLED A CIRCUIT CLOSER. IT WAS NEEDED FOR THE OLD TELEGRAPH
> CIRCUITS THAT OPERATED WITH ALL STATIONS CLOSED EXCEPT WHEN SENDING.
> THEN SOME FOLKS LIKED TO USE THEM FOR TRANSMITTER TUNING ON RADIO
> CIRCUITS.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair

I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2025. Re: [cw_bugs] Fw: 1944 Original Standard

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2013-12-27 20:36:11 UTC
From: Dwayne Genung
Topic: 2022  Message: 2025

Ok Joe...
Tnx very much it's not like I
need this part so I go to work as a telegragh operator.. hi But what ever you think.. Or if you can point me in the right direction, that would be great.. just want to get this thing back to original...

But my new bug,,, since I adjusted it I can't ask for anything better.... Good deal...
Later Dwayne

On Friday, December 27, 2013 12:49 PM, Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...> wrote:

Dwayne, I mad a couple, but I do not have any Delrin left. I will look and see if I have some brass. I needed to order some wire to make springs and to be honest,
I can't remember if I did or not and what gauge if I did. ☺ It has
been hectic down here lately. Mine were nickel plated.

On 12/27/2013 10:39 AM, Dwayne Genung wrote:

> Tnx for the reply on that Benny.. I kind'a knew that but I was trying to stay on the description that vibroplex says in that parts lay out.. This bug I got here was modified to work into a electronic key-er and have it back to normal.. And sure would like to get this circuit closer... Well guess I got a excuse to visit the flea markets now... Take care and all the best in the new year.... Dwayne Ve6qx
>
>
>
>On Thursday, December 26, 2013 2:46 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...> wrote:
>
>HI DEWAYNE
>
>IT IS CALLED A CIRCUIT CLOSER. IT WAS
NEEDED FOR THE OLD TELEGRAPH CIRCUITS THAT
OPERATED WITH ALL STATIONS CLOSED EXCEPT
WHEN SENDING. THEN SOME FOLKS LIKED TO USE
THEM FOR TRANSMITTER TUNING ON RADIO
CIRCUITS.
>
>73
>
BENNY K5KV
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek

P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2026. GHD optical bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-04 23:56:36 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2026  Message: 2026

Looking to buy a GHD optical bug....

Don....w2xb

# 2027. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-08 19:46:36 UTC
From: Dave Raycroft
Topic: 233  Message: 2027

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 11, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday February 12, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201402.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2028. BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 04:02:58 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2028

Hello group,
Well looks like no Ghd bugs around... So maybe someone has a Belali intrepid bug they want to sell.....

Don...w2xb

# 2029. Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 13:25:53 UTC
From: Steve
Topic: 2028  Message: 2029

Hi Don
Just FYI..... I QSOed a guy who uses a new Begali bug and it sounds
awful. He can't get the contact bounce out of it. He told me it has
about 14 adjustments.
I worked with him for a long time and he even tried putting a capacitor
across it to no avail. That was several months ago and it still sounds bad.
Usually the bounce occurs when transitioning from a dit to a dah
rapidly. Multiple micro dits proceed the dah which results in a slurring
sound.
Anyway, $600+ is a lot to gamble especially since it has such an ugly base.
Looking at a top view of the Begali Intrepid it appears that only one
set of contracts is used for both dit and dah. That is a certain recipe
for bounce. That dit contact must be
completely free of vibration before a dah is attempted. I had a 1919
Vibroplex model X which also used one instead of 2 contacts and it had
the same problem! Also I noticed that one
contact is cone shapped and comes to a sharp point. Cute but it probably
wouldn't last too long with a tube rig.
Reading through the Eham reviews it's hard to tell if any of those guys
actually use the bug every day or if they are just gloating about their
expensive investment. Some people just like
to collect unusual or expensive bugs for their own satisfaction and some
of us use them on the air. For the most part, they all sound alike.
My favorite is a 1934 McElory with the dual pivots. Next is the
Vibroplex Presentation (pre 1979) with the adjustable mainspring and
jewel bearings. These have little or no vertical slop on the dash levers
and
feel a bit better than the others, IMHO.
I think Mr. Begali tried to make a simple device too complex just to be
different.
If I was going to blow $600 I might try one of these
http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm. At least it's pretty!
73
Steve N4LQ

# 2030. Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 13:34:56 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2030

Morning Steve,
Thanks for the info. Makes a lot of sense. Been using a vizbug and a vibroplex lightning and they are great. ( Once you get them adjusted , like any bug) I would like the try an optical bug but the price is crazy (1300 bux). It must be that I am starting to suffer from "cabin fever" Been a long cold winter.

Thanks again for your info Steve.

Don....w2xb

# 2031. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 13:47:00 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2028  Message: 2031

Hi Don and Steve,
If you don't mind I will add a little to this.
Steve is correct in his assessment of the Intrepid. I have one and don't like the sound or the number of strange adjustments. In an effort to get rid of the contact bounce I made a contact de-bounce circuit from CMOS inverters and that helped but still was not happy with the Intrepid's perfromance.
I have used all the bugs mentioned by Steve and would recommend the Olympic bug. Performance was great out of the box and very simple setup and operation. See the following: http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
73, George
W2GS

On 2/11/2014 7:25 AM, Steve wrote:
>
> Hi Don
> Just FYI..... I QSOed a guy who uses a new Begali bug and it sounds
> awful. He can't get the contact bounce out of it. He told me it has
> about 14 adjustments.
> I worked with him for a long time and he even tried putting a capacitor
> across it to no avail. That was several months ago and it still sounds
> bad.
> Usually the bounce occurs when transitioning from a dit to a dah
> rapidly. Multiple micro dits proceed the dah which results in a slurring
> sound.
> Anyway, $600+ is a lot to gamble especially since it has such an ugly
> base.
> Looking at a top view of the Begali Intrepid it appears that only one
> set of contracts is used for both dit and dah. That is a certain recipe
> for bounce. That dit contact must be
> completely free of vibration before a dah is attempted. I had a 1919
> Vibroplex model X which also used one instead of 2 contacts and it had
> the same problem! Also I noticed that one
> contact is cone shapped and comes to a sharp point. Cute but it probably
> wouldn't last too long with a tube rig.
> Reading through the Eham reviews it's hard to tell if any of those guys
> actually use the bug every day or if they are just gloating about their
> expensive investment. Some people just like
> to collect unusual or expensive bugs for their own satisfaction and some
> of us use them on the air. For the most part, they all sound alike.
> My favorite is a 1934 McElory with the dual pivots. Next is the
> Vibroplex Presentation (pre 1979) with the adjustable mainspring and
> jewel bearings. These have little or no vertical slop on the dash levers
> and
> feel a bit better than the others, IMHO.

> I think Mr. Begali tried to make a simple device too complex just to be
> different.
> If I was going to blow $600 I might try one of these
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm. At least it's pretty!
> 73
> Steve N4LQ
>
>

# 2032. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 14:06:45 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2032

Hello Gerorge,
Looked at the web site. Looks and sounds like a great bug..

Don...w2xb

# 2033. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 14:14:27 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2028  Message: 2033

I have to say the, the Olympic is on the top of my wish list. I have one
of Tom's
MagPad paddles and it is awe sum and I I have used his eZKe. Pete, W5PEH,
has the Olympic and says it is great.

On 2/11/2014 7:47 AM, George wrote:
> Hi Don and Steve,
> If you don't mind I will add a little to this.
> Steve is correct in his assessment of the Intrepid. I have one and
> don't like the sound or the number of strange adjustments. In an
> effort to get rid of the contact bounce I made a contact de-bounce
> circuit from CMOS inverters and that helped but still was not happy
> with the Intrepid's perfromance.
> I have used all the bugs mentioned by Steve and would recommend the
> Olympic bug. Performance was great out of the box and very simple
> setup and operation. See the following:
> http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
> 73, George
> W2GS

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2034. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 16:31:28 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2028  Message: 2034

I would certainly agree with George, I have an Olympic bug and it is excellent. Also, I have the vertical VIZ but never felt I had good control. The Olympic is a different feel with it’s double lever and magnetic adjustments yet very easy to set up and operate.

73, Troy, W6HV

From: George
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 5:47 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Hi Don and Steve,
If you don't mind I will add a little to this.
Steve is correct in his assessment of the Intrepid. I have one and don't like the sound or the number of strange adjustments. In an effort to get rid of the contact bounce I made a contact de-bounce circuit from CMOS inverters and that helped but still was not happy with the Intrepid's perfromance.
I have used all the bugs mentioned by Steve and would recommend the Olympic bug. Performance was great out of the box and very simple setup and operation. See the following: http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
73, George
W2GS

On 2/11/2014 7:25 AM, Steve wrote:

Hi Don
Just FYI..... I QSOed a guy who uses a new Begali bug and it sounds awful. He can't get the contact bounce out of it. He told me it has about 14 adjustments.
I worked with him for a long time and he even tried putting a capacitor across it to no avail. That was several months ago and it still sounds bad.
Usually the bounce occurs when transitioning from a dit to a dah rapidly. Multiple micro dits proceed the dah which results in a slurring sound.
Anyway, $600+ is a lot to gamble especially since it has such an ugly base.
Looking at a top view of the Begali Intrepid it appears that only one set of contracts is used for both dit and dah. That is a certain recipe for bounce. That dit contact must be completely free of vibration before a dah is attempted. I had a 1919 Vibroplex model X which also used one instead of 2 contacts and it had the same problem! Also I noticed that one contact is cone shapped and comes to a sharp point. Cute but it probably wouldn't last too long with a tube rig.
Reading through the Eham reviews it's hard to tell if any of those guys actually use the bug every day or if they are just gloating about their expensive investment. Some people just like

to collect unusual or expensive bugs for their own satisfaction and some of us use them on the air. For the most part, they all sound alike.
My favorite is a 1934 McElory with the dual pivots. Next is the Vibroplex Presentation (pre 1979) with the adjustable mainspring and jewel bearings. These have little or no vertical slop on the dash levers and
feel a bit better than the others, IMHO.
I think Mr. Begali tried to make a simple device too complex just to be different.
If I was going to blow $600 I might try one of these
http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm. At least it's pretty!
73
Steve N4LQ

# 2035. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 18:48:44 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2035

If you're a conventional bug user, tell Tom Withers maker of the Olympic bug you need the small weight also. A speed range of 14 to 28 might suit the new operators who want to use a bug at 14 wpm but most of the old bug users wouldn't think of using a bug below 20 wpm and a speed range of 20 to 40 would be much better for them.

I generally send at two settings: Slow 27 wpm for handling traffic where each letter is written down by hand for later transmission or delivery and faster 33 to 38 wpm for rag chewing with the guys.

33 wpm is a very fluid speed for talking with Morse.

73
David N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 1:47 PM, George <at6c@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi Don and Steve,
> If you don't mind I will add a little to this.
> Steve is correct in his assessment of the Intrepid. I have one and don't
> like the sound or the number of strange adjustments. In an effort to get
> rid of the contact bounce I made a contact de-bounce circuit from CMOS
> inverters and that helped but still was not happy with the Intrepid's
> perfromance.
> I have used all the bugs mentioned by Steve and would recommend the
> Olympic bug. Performance was great out of the box and very simple setup
> and operation. See the following:
> http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
>
> On 2/11/2014 7:25 AM, Steve wrote:
>
>
>
> Hi Don
> Just FYI..... I QSOed a guy who uses a new Begali bug and it sounds
> awful. He can't get the contact bounce out of it. He told me it has
> about 14 adjustments.
> I worked with him for a long time and he even tried putting a capacitor
> across it to no avail. That was several months ago and it still sounds bad.
> Usually the bounce occurs when transitioning from a dit to a dah
> rapidly. Multiple micro dits proceed the dah which results in a slurring

> sound.
> Anyway, $600+ is a lot to gamble especially since it has such an ugly base.
> Looking at a top view of the Begali Intrepid it appears that only one
> set of contracts is used for both dit and dah. That is a certain recipe
> for bounce. That dit contact must be
> completely free of vibration before a dah is attempted. I had a 1919
> Vibroplex model X which also used one instead of 2 contacts and it had
> the same problem! Also I noticed that one
> contact is cone shapped and comes to a sharp point. Cute but it probably
> wouldn't last too long with a tube rig.
> Reading through the Eham reviews it's hard to tell if any of those guys
> actually use the bug every day or if they are just gloating about their
> expensive investment. Some people just like
> to collect unusual or expensive bugs for their own satisfaction and some
> of us use them on the air. For the most part, they all sound alike.
> My favorite is a 1934 McElory with the dual pivots. Next is the
> Vibroplex Presentation (pre 1979) with the adjustable mainspring and
> jewel bearings. These have little or no vertical slop on the dash levers
> and
> feel a bit better than the others, IMHO.
> I think Mr. Begali tried to make a simple device too complex just to be
> different.
> If I was going to blow $600 I might try one of these
> http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm. At least it's pretty!
> 73
> Steve N4LQ
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2036. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 19:13:57 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2028  Message: 2036

I never thought to ask Tom for the smaller weight. But, it came with both weights anyway.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 10:48 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

If you're a conventional bug user, tell Tom Withers maker of the Olympic bug you need the small weight also. A speed range of 14 to 28 might suit the new operators who want to use a bug at 14 wpm but most of the old bug users wouldn't think of using a bug below 20 wpm and a speed range of 20 to 40 would be much better for them.

I generally send at two settings: Slow 27 wpm for handling traffic where each letter is written down by hand for later transmission or delivery and faster 33 to 38 wpm for rag chewing with the guys.

33 wpm is a very fluid speed for talking with Morse.

73
David N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 1:47 PM, George <at6c@bellsouth.net> wrote:

Hi Don and Steve,
If you don't mind I will add a little to this.
Steve is correct in his assessment of the Intrepid. I have one and don't like the sound or the number of strange adjustments. In an effort to get rid of the contact bounce I made a contact de-bounce circuit from CMOS inverters and that helped but still was not happy with the Intrepid's perfromance.
I have used all the bugs mentioned by Steve and would recommend the Olympic bug. Performance was great out of the box and very simple setup and operation. See the following: http://www.twradio.co.uk/TWOlympic.html
73, George
W2GS

On 2/11/2014 7:25 AM, Steve wrote:

Hi Don
Just FYI..... I QSOed a guy who uses a new Begali bug and it sounds awful. He can't get the contact bounce out of it. He told me it has about 14 adjustments.
I worked with him for a long time and he even tried putting a capacitor across it to no avail. That was several months ago and it still sounds bad.
Usually the bounce occurs when transitioning from a dit to a dah

rapidly. Multiple micro dits proceed the dah which results in a slurring sound.
Anyway, $600+ is a lot to gamble especially since it has such an ugly base.
Looking at a top view of the Begali Intrepid it appears that only one set of contracts is used for both dit and dah. That is a certain recipe for bounce. That dit contact must be
completely free of vibration before a dah is attempted. I had a 1919 Vibroplex model X which also used one instead of 2 contacts and it had the same problem! Also I noticed that one
contact is cone shapped and comes to a sharp point. Cute but it probably wouldn't last too long with a tube rig.
Reading through the Eham reviews it's hard to tell if any of those guys actually use the bug every day or if they are just gloating about their expensive investment. Some people just like
to collect unusual or expensive bugs for their own satisfaction and some of us use them on the air. For the most part, they all sound alike.
My favorite is a 1934 McElory with the dual pivots. Next is the Vibroplex Presentation (pre 1979) with the adjustable mainspring and jewel bearings. These have little or no vertical slop on the dash levers and
feel a bit better than the others, IMHO.
I think Mr. Begali tried to make a simple device too complex just to be different.
If I was going to blow $600 I might try one of these
http://www.i1qod.it/j36.htm. At least it's pretty!
73
Steve N4LQ

# 2037. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 19:26:17 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2028  Message: 2037

HELLO OLYMPIC BUG USERS AND OWNERS

I HAVE MANY TYPICAL VIBROPLEX, LES LOGAN AND VIZKEY BUGS. ALL SHARE A COMMON SINGLE LEVER. I AM CURIOUS ABOUT THE TWIN LEVER DESIGN AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THESE QUESTIONS AND OTHER COMMENTS YOU MIGHT OFFER.

1. DOES THE TWIN LEVER ALLOW YOU TO MAKE ANY ERRORS THAT CAN NOT BE MADE ON THE TYPICAL BUG? IF SO DO YOU MAKE THEM WHEN USING IT ON THE AIR?

2. AFTER YOU STARTED USING THE TWIN LEVER BUG DID YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THE TYPICAL BUG?

THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE. 73

BENNY K5KV

# 2038. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 20:58:38 UTC
From: <cameldriver777@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2038

Hey Benny,

I have had no problem whatsoever with the Olympic versus my other bugs. Have 2 videos on You Tube with some details on the video as well as below the description. Hope this helps.

Video Part 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlyPV12Hph4

Video Part 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gT74QCLdwk
73
Pete W5PEH

# 2039. Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 21:46:42 UTC
From: <cameldriver777@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2039

Hello Steve, Don and All,

Well, first off I would like to say that I own the Frattini Semi Auto Pro Bug, the Begali Interpid, and the Olympic plus a shack full of other bugs, including 1914 Racers, Junior, Zephyr, Buzza 100, and a some more.

Steve, I think I know the operator you are talking about but since you didnt mention his call sign nor has he posted here I wont guess or post it here. If it is who I am thinking it was he and I discussed this problem several times and after some playing around and checking some connections etc I think he finally got the problem resolved.

The Begali has TWO contacts. One for dits and One for dahs. So you can put to rest the theory about a single contact being the problem.

Also The Begali has only 8 adjustments not 14. Also the Damper assy on the key stops the dit string nicely and works the way a damper should.

The pointed Dit Contact is spring loaded and I doubt seriously that it will ever wear out. If it did Piero Begali would easily replace it I am sure. I dont know of anyone who has ever had any problem that he didnt willing correct.

As far as the Eham Reviews, I dont GLOAT about any bug. Only give my humble opinion about it. And older Reviews are going to change somewhat depending on what keys have come and gone into and out of the shack through the years if you get my drift..but dont think many of us are going to go back and change an older review etc...I am not a collector and I use ALL my bugs on the air. 8 of the 15 bugs I have remaining are on my desk right in front of me and I cycle through them all. Why so many bugs?? In search of the perfect one...hi hi... I just recently retired so I will be thinning those down to only several of my favorites etc. That is definitely a hard choice. I love them all and honestly anyone of them could be my NR 1 Bug.

The Intrepid is the most Precision bug that you are going to find today. No slop in that baby and very precise adjustments. It does take a very short indoctrination to get use to the adjustments. Piero made the Intrepid for Bug users who wanted something that would feel solid and make great CW.

I agree the cost is very expensive and Tom's Olympic is half the price, but Tom himself will tell you it is not near the Quality or precision of an Intrepid. BUT the Olympic is a very nice solid feeling key and if you dont want to spend the extra 300 bucks it is the key for someones budget etc. I have a video of the Olympic and the Begali on You Tube under W5PEH. They are both excellent bugs. Once I start using them side by side it is difficult for me to say which one I would consider a favorite. All I can say is that the Begali is definitely the more Precise and Solid feeling key. No slop. Just depends on what you want and what you can afford I guess. I also own Toms TWanger Sideswiper and the eZKe Single Lever Magnetic Paddle, an awesome single lever paddle for bug users who sometimes QSY to a Paddle. Very nice.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAg6OG0pNAQ

The Begali video was made right after I got the key so guys could just mainly see it in action. I had not yet fine tuned any adjustments at the time of that video. After familiarizing myself more with the adjustments the key can send almost twice as fast as on the video etc.

The Olympic is also a great bug:
Part 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlyPV12Hph4
Part 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gT74QCLdwk

The Frattini is third on the list when it comes to the other two keys IMHO. Very expensive also. It is a nice looking bug however. The Olympic is also a nice looking bug. I cant call the Intrepid Ugly but do have to say the appearance is not as nice as the Olympic or the Frattini in my opinion.

I have been through ALL the McElroys and my favorite is the P500. My main Bug is one of my 1914 Blue Racers which seems to always be my go to bug.

Oh yeah, prior to manufacturing the Intrepid Begali sent emails to some bug operators (I was one) asking what they wanted in a Bug, so he didnt just pull the idea out of his butt and go with it. He made it due to many requests for a bug manufactured by him. That is what initiated the manufacture.
Next will be a Sideswiper/Cootie Key other than his HST combo.

I guess the selection of a bug is truly a personal thing and we all have our favorites. I would never put down or make negative comments about a key manufacturer or other Ham for his choice of what key he has manufactured or what key a Ham chooses. So just because someone owns an expensive bug or key I can not assume he is an extremist etc. Think that is taking it overboard.

Anywho hope some of this info is helpful. Hope to see you all on the air.....later es 73
Pete W5PEH

# 2040. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 22:44:36 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2028  Message: 2040

Benny,

I worked you 9 Feb 2014, at 2231 UTC, on 14054.0 (SKCC 920) using my Olympic. I use the twin levers as if they were a regular single lever bug. To me, the Olympic is a very easy to use bug.

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: Benny Owens
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 11:26 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

HELLO OLYMPIC BUG USERS AND OWNERS

I HAVE MANY TYPICAL VIBROPLEX, LES LOGAN AND VIZKEY BUGS. ALL SHARE A COMMON SINGLE LEVER. I AM CURIOUS ABOUT THE TWIN LEVER DESIGN AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THESE QUESTIONS AND OTHER COMMENTS YOU MIGHT OFFER.

1. DOES THE TWIN LEVER ALLOW YOU TO MAKE ANY ERRORS THAT CAN NOT BE MADE ON THE TYPICAL BUG? IF SO DO YOU MAKE THEM WHEN USING IT ON THE AIR?

2. AFTER YOU STARTED USING THE TWIN LEVER BUG DID YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THE TYPICAL BUG?

THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE. 73

BENNY K5KV

# 2041. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 23:19:50 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028 Message: 2041

I2RTF Pietro Begali sending Morse Code on his Intrepid semi-automatica key
I don't have an Intrepid bug, but I have heard one on the air. Here's
Pietro I2RTF himself using his on the air:
https://archive.org/details/I2rtfPietroBegaliSendingMorseCodeOnHisIntrepidSemi-automaticaKey

I do have many of the other keys, Pete W5PEH mentions, and although I don't have Alberto Frattini, I1QOD's key or Pietro Begali, I2RTF's key, I have serial number #001 of the Olympic key which was a gift to me from Tom Withers and his key works very well.

My only complaint is that without knurling it is difficult to adjust the key because it is difficult to hold the adjustment screws motionless while you secure them with the hex screw and that adjustment with the use of a hex wrench makes "on the go" adjustments of the key which I am used to doing as when I send at a slow speed of 25 wpm I set the bug up differently then when I use a bug at 40 wpm. It is just what I am used to.

I did notice that to me the dots didn't sound solid with the minimum spacing that Tom Withers set the bug up with. Many of the new bug users want a key that will send at 14 wpm and have very close spacing like the paddles (manipulators) they are used to using. I'm used to a bug and know that you have to have momentum to have good dots as it is a mechanical system. Most users can't hear the scratchiness of the dots on my key, I got rid of the problem just by increasing the swing of the pendulum. I send with my wrist rolling on the table so this suits me and the way I send. I don't send with a bug the way people send with a paddle.

Of all the keys I have my McElroy P-500 is the best working key that I own. It is easy to adjust, makes perfect dots, and holds the adjustments. I have a McElroy P-600 teardrop bug and it isn't as good of a key but I think it is gorgeous. My particular teardrop key has mainspring issues as the spring is broken and was replaced and the replacement repair was not good and it is a too stiff spring. Maybe with a repair it will sing better, but right now it won't send 10 dots in a row.

I am always drawn to the Lightning Bug model of Vibroplex as it has a larger speed range than the Original model. The Lightning Bug Deluxe is a gorgeous key. Some people don't like the extra noise the assembled (not cast) frame seems to make.

But I always come back to my Original because I have sent so much with it, I carried it around the world a dozen times in my sea bag and I used it for thousands of hours on the commercial and amateur bands.

In a list I'd put the McElroy P-500, Les Logan Speed-X, and Presentation (pre 1970) model Vibroplex in the top of the list with a nod to the

Presentations exceptional speed range and "feel" adjustments made possible by the adjustable La Hiff mainspring.

But I wouldn't complain if I had to send on my Original, or a Lightning Bug all day either.

I have used but don't own a Telegraph Apparatus Co. bug and I would put it in the top list also I believe but I didn't because I don't have one to use day in day out as I do the others.

I use all my bugs (except for one lefty Original).

There are other really nice bugs out there, and there are many (old, no longer made) bugs that are terrible, thus they got discontinued.

73
David N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 9:46 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hello Steve, Don and All,
>
>
> Well, first off I would like to say that I own the Frattini Semi Auto Pro
> Bug, the Begali Interpid, and the Olympic plus a shack full of other bugs,
> including 1914 Racers, Junior, Zephyr, Buzza 100, and a some more.
>
>
> Steve, I think I know the operator you are talking about but since you
> didnt mention his call sign nor has he posted here I wont guess or post it
> here. If it is who I am thinking it was he and I discussed this problem
> several times and after some playing around and checking some connections
> etc I think he finally got the problem resolved.
>
>
> The Begali has TWO contacts. One for dits and One for dahs. So you can put
> to rest the theory about a single contact being the problem.
>
>
> Also The Begali has only 8 adjustments not 14. Also the Damper assy on the
> key stops the dit string nicely and works the way a damper should.
>
>
> The pointed Dit Contact is spring loaded and I doubt seriously that it
> will ever wear out. If it did Piero Begali would easily replace it I am
> sure. I dont know of anyone who has ever had any problem that he didnt
> willing correct.
>
>
> As far as the Eham Reviews, I dont GLOAT about any bug. Only give my

> humble opinion about it. And older Reviews are going to change somewhat
> depending on what keys have come and gone into and out of the shack through
> the years if you get my drift..but dont think many of us are going to go
> back and change an older review etc...I am not a collector and I use ALL my
> bugs on the air. 8 of the 15 bugs I have remaining are on my desk right in
> front of me and I cycle through them all. Why so many bugs?? In search of
> the perfect one...hi hi... I just recently retired so I will be thinning
> those down to only several of my favorites etc. That is definitely a hard
> choice. I love them all and honestly anyone of them could be my NR 1 Bug.
>
>
> The Intrepid is the most Precision bug that you are going to find today.
> No slop in that baby and very precise adjustments. It does take a very
> short indoctrination to get use to the adjustments. Piero made the Intrepid
> for Bug users who wanted something that would feel solid and make great CW.
>
>
> I agree the cost is very expensive and Tom's Olympic is half the price,
> but Tom himself will tell you it is not near the Quality or precision of an
> Intrepid. BUT the Olympic is a very nice solid feeling key and if you dont
> want to spend the extra 300 bucks it is the key for someones budget etc. I
> have a video of the Olympic and the Begali on You Tube under W5PEH. They
> are both excellent bugs. Once I start using them side by side it is
> difficult for me to say which one I would consider a favorite. All I can
> say is that the Begali is definitely the more Precise and Solid feeling
> key. No slop. Just depends on what you want and what you can afford I
> guess. I also own Toms TWanger Sideswiper and the eZKe Single Lever
> Magnetic Paddle, an awesome single lever paddle for bug users who sometimes
> QSY to a Paddle. Very nice.
>
>
>
> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAg6OG0pNAQ
>
>
> The Begali video was made right after I got the key so guys could just
> mainly see it in action. I had not yet fine tuned any adjustments at the
> time of that video. After familiarizing myself more with the adjustments
> the key can send almost twice as fast as on the video etc.
>
>
> The Olympic is also a great bug:
>
> Part 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlyPV12Hph4
>
> Part 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gT74QCLdwk
>
>
> The Frattini is third on the list when it comes to the other two keys
> IMHO. Very expensive also. It is a nice looking bug however. The Olympic

> is also a nice looking bug. I cant call the Intrepid Ugly but do have to
> say the appearance is not as nice as the Olympic or the Frattini in my
> opinion.
>
>
> I have been through ALL the McElroys and my favorite is the P500. My main
> Bug is one of my 1914 Blue Racers which seems to always be my go to bug.
>
>
> Oh yeah, prior to manufacturing the Intrepid Begali sent emails to some
> bug operators (I was one) asking what they wanted in a Bug, so he didnt
> just pull the idea out of his butt and go with it. He made it due to many
> requests for a bug manufactured by him. That is what initiated the
> manufacture.
>
> Next will be a Sideswiper/Cootie Key other than his HST combo.
>
>
> I guess the selection of a bug is truly a personal thing and we all have
> our favorites. I would never put down or make negative comments about a key
> manufacturer or other Ham for his choice of what key he has manufactured or
> what key a Ham chooses. So just because someone owns an expensive bug or
> key I can not assume he is an extremist etc. Think that is taking it
> overboard.
>
>
> Anywho hope some of this info is helpful. Hope to see you all on the
> air.....later es 73 Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2042. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-11 23:41:40 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2042

David
What is it about the P500 you like? I haven't owned one of those but I do have the 1934 and 1938 McElroy. The 34 is so totally different than anything else and the adjustable dash lever is really cool. With the 1938, Mac just copied the Vibroplex mechanism and to me it feels like a lot like a Vibroplex except for the light weight aluminum lever which might help some.

On my Presentation which I've had for 50 years, I have the speed lever of that era. It never gives me any trouble. Recently I bought a new one from Vibroplex and it's a problem. When you move the lever it loosens the bolt and the lever falls flat. I've put some fiber washers in behind the screw but it still works loose after a few tries.

73 Steve

# 2043. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 01:24:40 UTC
From: <cameldriver777@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2043

David you are correct about the knurling on the Olympic or should I say the lack of. His Twanger and eZKe Single lever are knurless also...hi..That is probably the only thing I wish Tom had done differently but I normally have two or three bugs set at different speeds. For example I have a 26 racer that is set for about 24 wpm and my spring tension and swing and dah gap is set differently on that key versus the bugs that are set for closer to 30 and 35 wpm, which is normally a 1917 Racer. I have two 1914 Racers and nr 1 is set about 28 and nr 2 is the screamer which is close to 38 or 40, and they are both set to a wider swing than Tom recommends for the Olympic. I too like the bit wider swing. Just feels better and sounds better to me. Just easier that way for me so I dont have to readjust one key all the time. Neat that we are similar in that aspect...hi..

After doing the second video of the Olympic I ended up going back to a wider swing for exactly the reason you stated....better dit pattern and sound.

I let the S600 go. It wasnt that bad at all but the P500 just feels so solid and smooth and the lever felt very heavy like when sending due to the weight size I am assuming. I preferred it at 25 or so with both weights. If you went to one weight it still felt good but my favorite feel was with both weights. Very solid and controlled feeling bug for sure.

I did have a Les Logan Speedx Model 515 Serial nr X-13 at one time but sold it...it was a very nice feeling bug but the dit spring needed to be stronger and I was going to replace it but someone wanted the key so I sold it to them..hi..it was a nice sending bug.

Good stuff David....cu sn es 73
Pete W5PEH

# 2044. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 01:54:17 UTC
From: <cameldriver777@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2044

HI Steve,

On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.

Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH

# 2045. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 03:07:23 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2045

Pete....Sorry...I was talking about the "Vari-Speed" option. The new ones come loose when you swing the speed arm.

# 2046. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 03:26:16 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2028  Message: 2046

Steve,

What side do you have the Vari-Speed pivoting are on, left or right?
If you have it on the right side, you pivot the arm towards you and
it loosens the thumb screw. When you set it where you want, just
a bit towards you, tighten the thumb screw and push the speed arm
just a bit more and it should hold nicely. If you have it on the left,
it will have the tendency to loosen itself as it wants to swing away
from you when operating.

On 2/11/2014 9:07 PM, n4lq@... wrote:
>
> Pete....Sorry...I was talking about the "Vari-Speed" option. The new
> ones come loose when you swing the speed arm.
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2047. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 04:01:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2047

Steve,

I got confused. The key that I like is the 1938 Mac-Key., The Mac-Keys were the T-Bar keys and the P-500 was the key like the Vibroplex that came out in the 1940s. The S-600 was like the S-500 but it had chrome and a sleek tear drop shape.

I like the pre-tensioner that holds the dot spring under tension. It's a little arm that hooks over the dot spring. It seems to eliminate bad dots..

I have NO idea what you are speaking about when you speak about the Presentation and the "speed lever". What is a speed lever?

Even worse (for me!) "When you move the lever, it loosens the bolt and the lever falls flat" - now I'm lost.

Don't tell me you traded a 50 year old Presentation lever with the La Hiff adjustable main spring for a modern Original lever? The lever and main spring is what makes the Presentation a Presentation. Forget the gold plating, for the operator the real meat is the La Hiff adjustable main spring.

There is a small slotted screw that you can access by using a 10 inch long cabinet screwdriver that secures the bottom trunnion screw. This can be tightened and the trunnion screw cannot move.

The trunnion screw has two parts - a screw which has a slot for a screw driver (to hold it still) and a locking nut which holds it from moving.

Here is the mechanical diagram. What parts are you talking about - the O in the part number just means Original as the Presentation model is gone, but many of the Presentation parts are the same size as Original parts.

http://www.hamanuals.com/MMans/vibrorig.pdf

73

David

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 6:41 PM, <n4lq@...> wrote:

>
>
> David
>
> What is it about the P500 you like? I haven't owned one of those but I do
> have the 1934 and 1938 McElroy. The 34 is so totally different than
> anything else and the adjustable dash lever is really cool. With the 1938,

> Mac just copied the Vibroplex mechanism and to me it feels like a lot like
> a Vibroplex except for the light weight aluminum lever which might help
> some.
>
>
> On my Presentation which I've had for 50 years, I have the speed lever of
> that era. It never gives me any trouble. Recently I bought a new one from
> Vibroplex and it's a problem. When you move the lever it loosens the bolt
> and the lever falls flat. I've put some fiber washers in behind the screw
> but it still works loose after a few tries.
>
>
> 73 Steve
>
>
>
>

# 2048. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 04:07:12 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2048

Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy new bearings - both top and bottom.

On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the adjustments.

Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.

73

David N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:

>
>
> HI Steve,
>
>
> On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion
> Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and
> placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close
> to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in
> about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened
> in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it
> before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets
> the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in
> both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit
> and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the
> screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on
> the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion
> Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight
> vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the
> Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and
> the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin
> and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch
> oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.
>
> Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH
>
>

>
>

# 2049. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 04:08:15 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2049

Ok...I got confused too. Although my favorite bug has 1934 molded into the cast iron base it's actually called the 1936A McElroy and has the twin pivots. I also have the 1938 like yours and yes it has the T-bar but also has the Vibroplex type dash arrangement.
The speed lever is called the "Vari-Speed". It came out in the 50's, invented by some W8 and my old Presentation 1955 vintage has one of the originals which I love. Vibroplex sells them now but don't bother buying one because when you swing the lever the bolt comes loose and the lever falls.
Here it is: http://www.dxengineering.com/parts/vib-vs-obr

Steve N4LQ

# 2050. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 04:16:47 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2050

Steve,

If you have a 50 year old Vari Speed - you have a W8FYO Hill Varispeed.

I believe you recognize the excellent sending done with this W8FYO paddle?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXXFxzGAJgk&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ&index=28

73

DR
N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 11:07 PM, D.J.J. Ring, Jr. <n1ea@...> wrote:

> Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are
> made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy
> new bearings - both top and bottom.
>
> On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex
> removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed
> top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the
> adjustments.
>
> Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and
> lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground
> conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
> On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> HI Steve,
>>
>>
>> On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion
>> Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and
>> placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close
>> to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in
>> about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened
>> in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it

>> before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets
>> the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in
>> both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit
>> and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the
>> screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on
>> the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion
>> Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight
>> vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the
>> Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and
>> the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin
>> and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch
>> oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.
>>
>> Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>

# 2051. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 04:17:36 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2028  Message: 2051
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Actually, the early keys with jewels, the ones with the top trunion screw instead of the faked plastic marker, were not synthetic ruby as they were later. They were real garnets, and those shatter very easily as they have planes of cleavage which the later synthetic rubies do not.

Fred – kt5x

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] On Behalf Of D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:07 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy new bearings - both top and bottom.

On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the adjustments.

Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.

73

David N1EA

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@... <mailto:cameldriver777@...> > wrote:

HI Steve,

On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will

jack up the pin and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.

Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH

# 2052. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 05:30:20 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2052

Planes of cleavage? Girls going home from Lust Vegas, after the annual Morris code and electric blanket convention?

Oh, like fault lines, where the stone cracks.

FD / Fred, you never cease to amaze me with what you know.

I think on this list we not only have some of the best fists in the world -- several who are here are perhaps the best bug men I've ever heard in my life.

**********
Q. How do you become one of the best semi automatic key senders in the world?

A. Let the competition die off.

**********

How true!

73

DR
On Feb 11, 2014 11:18 PM, "Fred Maas" <just.one.hill@gmail.com> wrote:

>
>
> Actually, the early keys with jewels, the ones with the top trunion screw
> instead of the faked plastic marker, were not synthetic ruby as they were
> later. They were real garnets, and those shatter very easily as they have
> planes of cleavage which the later synthetic rubies do not.
>
>
>
> Fred – kt5x
>
>
>
> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] *On
> Behalf Of *D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> *Sent:* Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:07 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG
>
>
>

>
>
> Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are
> made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy
> new bearings - both top and bottom.
>
>
>
> On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex
> removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed
> top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the
> adjustments.
>
>
>
> Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and
> lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground
> conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.
>
>
>
> 73
>
>
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
> On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> HI Steve,
>
>
>
> On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion
> Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and
> placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close
> to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in
> about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened
> in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it
> before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets
> the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in
> both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit
> and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the
> screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on

> the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion
> Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight
> vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the
> Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and
> the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin
> and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch
> oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.
>
> Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2053. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 05:39:47 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2028  Message: 2053

FRED KT5X ET AL

SOME YEARS AGO I BOUGHT SEVERAL KEYS ON EBAY AUCTION. ONE WAS A 1954 PRESENTATION IN HORRIBLE SHAPE. THE GOLD PLATED THING WAS DESTROYED BY SOME CHEMICAL SO IT LOOKS LIKE A DELUXE WITH A LA HIFF ADJUSTABLE MAIN SPRING NOW. IT HAS THE LITTLE RED PLASTIC THING IN THE TOP OF THE YOKE.

IF I UNDERSTOOD YOU CORRECTLY THIS BUG MAY HAVE THE FAKE JEWEL MATERIAL?

WHAT YEAR AND/OR SERIAL NUMBER DID VIBROPLEX CHANGE THE JEWEL MATERIAL YOU MENTIONED?

73
BENNY K5KV

On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 10:17 PM, Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...> wrote:

>
>
> Actually, the early keys with jewels, the ones with the top trunion screw
> instead of the faked plastic marker, were not synthetic ruby as they were
> later. They were real garnets, and those shatter very easily as they have
> planes of cleavage which the later synthetic rubies do not.
>
>
>
> Fred - kt5x
>
>
>
> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] *On
> Behalf Of *D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> *Sent:* Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:07 PM
>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG
>
>
>
>
>
> Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are
> made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy
> new bearings - both top and bottom.
>
>

>
> On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex
> removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed
> top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the
> adjustments.
>
>
>
> Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and
> lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground
> conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.
>
>
>
> 73
>
>
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
> On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:
>
>
>
> HI Steve,
>
>
>
> On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion
> Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and
> placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close
> to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in
> about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened
> in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it
> before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets
> the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in
> both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit
> and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the
> screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on
> the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion
> Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight
> vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the
> Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and
> the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin
> and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch
> oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.

>
> Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2054. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 07:22:05 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2028  Message: 2054

Benny,

If I understood FD correctly, the DELUXE bugs with the screws at the top of the yoke were made of garnet and then the red plastic decorative piece was used to seal the hole at the top and incabloc - artificial jewels - were used that didn't crack.

So in that case ALL Presentation models have man made jewels.

I think the change was right around the time the Presentation was announced which I believe was 1948.

But you know how manufacturing is, Vibroplex used up the old parts first - but I think since the JEWEL problem was costing them money for replacements and a terrible annoyance to the operators and a besmirchment on their name, they changed that right away.

73 my dear friend, lots of time since you visited my ship in Baton Rouge, LA when I was N1EA/MM.

73
DR

On Wed, Feb 12, 2014 at 12:39 AM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...> wrote:

>
>
> FRED KT5X ET AL
>
> SOME YEARS AGO I BOUGHT SEVERAL KEYS ON EBAY AUCTION. ONE WAS A 1954
> PRESENTATION IN HORRIBLE SHAPE. THE GOLD PLATED THING WAS DESTROYED BY
> SOME CHEMICAL SO IT LOOKS LIKE A DELUXE WITH A LA HIFF ADJUSTABLE MAIN
> SPRING NOW. IT HAS THE LITTLE RED PLASTIC THING IN THE TOP OF THE YOKE.
>
> IF I UNDERSTOOD YOU CORRECTLY THIS BUG MAY HAVE THE FAKE JEWEL MATERIAL?
>
> WHAT YEAR AND/OR SERIAL NUMBER DID VIBROPLEX CHANGE THE JEWEL MATERIAL YOU
> MENTIONED?
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
> On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 10:17 PM, Fred Maas <just.one.hill@...>wrote:
>
>>
>>

>> Actually, the early keys with jewels, the ones with the top trunion screw
>> instead of the faked plastic marker, were not synthetic ruby as they were
>> later. They were real garnets, and those shatter very easily as they have
>> planes of cleavage which the later synthetic rubies do not.
>>
>>
>>
>> Fred – kt5x
>>
>>
>>
>> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com] *On
>> Behalf Of *D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
>> *Sent:* Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:07 PM
>>
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> Just remember, don't tighten up on the elbows of the trunnion - they are
>> made of synthetic ruby and will crack easily in which case you have to buy
>> new bearings - both top and bottom.
>>
>>
>>
>> On most Presentations there was NO top trunnion screw because Vibroplex
>> removed them and replaced it with a short red plastic screw with a domed
>> top. People were cracking the ruby bearings by playing tightening the
>> adjustments.
>>
>>
>>
>> Oil won't hurt and cleaning the cup will help - get rid of the fuzz and
>> lint and yuck. Remember to connect the braid that provides ground
>> conductivity across the non-conducting ruby bearings.
>>
>>
>>
>> 73
>>
>>
>>
>> David N1EA
>>
>>
>>
>>

>>
>> On Tue, Feb 11, 2014 at 8:54 PM, <cameldriver777@...> wrote:
>>
>>
>>
>> HI Steve,
>>
>>
>>
>> On the Presentation I am assuming you are talking about the upper Trunion
>> Screw and Nut?? If so, I would try removing the Trunion Screw and Nut and
>> placing the Screw thru some type of metal that has a hole through it close
>> to the size of the screw and cranking the Trunion Nut down on the screw in
>> about the same area as where it is postioned when in the Nut is tightened
>> in the correct position on the key.....try to count the threads or mark it
>> before you remove it from the key to give u an idea of where the Nut meets
>> the Top Trunion Plate and then work the Nut on the Screw abt a 1/16" in
>> both directions of that mark.. This should help the threads ease up a bit
>> and allow the Nut to seat better on the screw. But first make sure the
>> screw and nut are good and clean etc. If there is chrome in the threads on
>> the nut or screw that is more than likely the problem. Also the Trunion
>> Screw should only be tightened enough so that the Lever has a very slight
>> vertical movement. Very slight. You should just barely be able to feel the
>> Lever move. This will ensure no binding or rubbing of the trunion pin and
>> the trunion screw/jewels. If it is overtightened it will jack up the pin
>> and/or the screw. Some dont agree but I use a pinch of Swiss Mobilus watch
>> oil on the tips of the Trunion Pin.
>>
>> Good luck.....73 Pete W5PEH
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2055. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BELGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 15:01:00 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2028  Message: 2055

Oh yea. I remember making that video. I thought I would love that key but turns out that Bencher made it better. The finger pieces are too small on this fyo paddle.

# 2056. tw olympic bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 15:40:30 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2056  Message: 2056

Does anyone want to sell a TW Olympic bug?

Don...w2xb

# 2057. Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 16:46:46 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2057  Message: 2057

Hi, All -

I'm late to this thread because of a little medical excitement yesterday, but I can still add my two cents worth. As a bug designer myself, I look at the design of the Begali Intrepid with a lot of admiration (and a little envy, I must confess). My immediate positive comment is the feel of its mechanical perfection - there is no lost motion or 'clanking around', so it is a pleasure to use without hearing a lot of non-cw sounds. Other bugs that reach this standard do it by using simple design and careful tweaking - Begali uses a complex design and manufactures it to superb tolerances. I also experienced the 'bounce' problem - whether or not you have this problem depends to some degree on the keying circuit of the rig in question - with some of my QRP rigs there is no bounce. Where I did have the problem it was simply solved by running its connections to the rig through the debounced manifold that it shares with all of my keys. (It is a modified MFJ keyer set in the 'semiautomatic' mode with a lot of input jacks in parallel.) I experience no timing or dot-clipping with this setup.
The Begali is also not difficult to set up, if you have a good grasp of what each of the adjustments actually does, but the same is true of any bug - there is some skill, but no magic involved.
As for the question of single vs. dual lever designs, I think that the differences are a bit subjective. For me, the one difference is that the transition from dot to dash can involve less rapid motion on the operator's part. But it can also lead to a new error - that of having both dot and dash contacts closed simultaneously. I use the dual lever approach in many of my designs because in some cases it is easier to design that a single-lever mechanism, and it lends itself to the bug's being useful as an iambic paddle with minimal change-over fuss.
Sorry for the belatedness of these comments - I learned a lot from this thread and will pay closer attention to some of the instruments mentioned.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU (a Begali fan)

# 2058. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 18:03:58 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2057  Message: 2058

Hello Richard,

The bug was used without motion of the fingers when it was used exclusively by professional telegraphers who were taught never, never, never, use the muscles in the fingers.

So the dual lever bug improved the operator's sending by allowing characters that had dot or dots after a dash or dashes to be sent without a defect in timing caused by the vibrator not being ready to send dashes.

If a commercial operator used his fingers, he'd have to I've his fingers all night to fix the pain and paralysis.

Only later with electronic Meyers did the practice of finger use become common.

I use a double lever like I used a single lever semi automatic, but I can start the dashes a bit earlier which makes for smoother singlet sounding characters.

73 David N1EA
On Feb 12, 2014 11:47 AM, "Richard Meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:

>
>
>
> Hi, All -
>
> I'm late to this thread because of a little medical excitement yesterday,
> but I can still add my two cents worth. As a bug designer myself, I look at
> the design of the Begali Intrepid with a lot of admiration (and a little
> envy, I must confess). My immediate positive comment is the feel of its
> mechanical perfection - there is no lost motion or 'clanking around', so it
> is a pleasure to use without hearing a lot of non-cw sounds. Other bugs
> that reach this standard do it by using simple design and careful tweaking
> - Begali uses a complex design and manufactures it to superb tolerances. I
> also experienced the 'bounce' problem - whether or not you have this
> problem depends to some degree on the keying circuit of the rig in question
> - with some of my QRP rigs there is no bounce. Where I did have the problem
> it was simply solved by running its connections to the rig through the
> debounced manifold that it shares with all of my keys. (It is a modified
> MFJ keyer set in the 'semiautomatic' mode with a lot of input jacks in
> parallel.) I experience no timing or dot-clipping with this setup.
> The Begali is also not difficult to set up, if you have a good grasp of
> what each of the adjustments actually does, but the same is true of any bug
> - there is some skill, but no magic involved.
> As for the question of single vs. dual lever designs, I think that the

> differences are a bit subjective. For me, the one difference is that the
> transition from dot to dash can involve less rapid motion on the operator's
> part. But it can also lead to a new error - that of having both dot and
> dash contacts closed simultaneously. I use the dual lever approach in many
> of my designs because in some cases it is easier to design that a
> single-lever mechanism, and it lends itself to the bug's being useful as an
> iambic paddle with minimal change-over fuss.
> Sorry for the belatedness of these comments - I learned a lot from this
> thread and will pay closer attention to some of the instruments mentioned.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU (a Begali fan)
>
>
>
>

# 2059. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 22:26:45 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2057  Message: 2059

Hi, David -

?????? Thanks for your comments - you said more clearly what I was trying to say.? Which is good, because I am reluctant to give sending advice to a group of operators who handle a bug much better than I do.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

-----Original Message-----
From: "D.J.J. Ring, Jr."
Sent: Feb 12, 2014 1:03 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

?

Hello Richard,

The bug was used without motion of the fingers when it was used exclusively by professional telegraphers who were taught never, never, never, use the muscles in the fingers.

So the dual lever bug improved the operator's sending by allowing characters that had dot or dots after a dash or dashes to be sent without a defect in timing caused by the vibrator not being ready to send dashes.

If a commercial operator used his fingers, he'd have to I've his fingers all night to fix the pain and paralysis.

Only later with electronic Meyers did the practice of finger use become common.

I use a double lever like I used a single lever semi automatic, but I can start the dashes a bit earlier which makes for smoother singlet sounding characters.

73 David N1EA

On Feb 12, 2014 11:47 AM, "Richard Meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:

# 2060. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-12 22:37:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2057  Message: 2060

Resubmitted with errors fixed:

Hello Richard,

The bug was used without motion of the fingers as it was used exclusively by professional telegraphers who were taught never, never, never, use the muscles in the fingers.

So the dual lever bug improved the operator's sending by allowing characters that had dot or dots after a dash or dashes to be sent without a defect in timing caused by the vibrator (or pendulum) not being ready to send dashes.

If a commercial operator used his fingers, he'd have to ice his fingers all night to fix the pain and paralysis.

Only later with electronic keyers did the practice of finger use of semi-automatic become common, and it was rare at first, but when the Morse requirement for licenses dropped so did instruction in the art of radiotelegraphy. Few were instructed by an old timer who passed on what he had learned usually in a lifetime of professional working.

I use a double lever like I used a single lever semi automatic, but I can start the dashes a bit earlier which makes for smoother sounding characters.

With thanks to Richard and others for understanding I'm having keyboard problems today.

73 David N1EA

On Wed, Feb 12, 2014 at 5:26 PM, Richard Meiss <wb9lpu@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi, David -
>
> Thanks for your comments - you said more clearly what I was trying
> to say. Which is good, because I am reluctant to give sending advice to a
> group of operators who handle a bug much better than I do.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: "D.J.J. Ring, Jr."
> Sent: Feb 12, 2014 1:03 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG
>
>
>
> Hello Richard,
>
> The bug was used without motion of the fingers when it was used
> exclusively by professional telegraphers who were taught never, never,
> never, use the muscles in the fingers.
>
> So the dual lever bug improved the operator's sending by allowing
> characters that had dot or dots after a dash or dashes to be sent without a
> defect in timing caused by the vibrator not being ready to send dashes.
>
> If a commercial operator used his fingers, he'd have to I've his fingers
> all night to fix the pain and paralysis.
>
> Only later with electronic Meyers did the practice of finger use become
> common.
>
> I use a double lever like I used a single lever semi automatic, but I can
> start the dashes a bit earlier which makes for smoother singlet sounding
> characters.
>
> 73 David N1EA
> On Feb 12, 2014 11:47 AM, "Richard Meiss" <wb9lpu@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2061. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-13 13:39:10 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2057  Message: 2061

I totally agree about not using fingers and it does seem like most bug ops are tapping out dashes with one or two fingers which results in rather short ragged sounding dashes. One of the most popular videos is that of DA sending the annual message on KPH. I watch that woman send and wonder how on earth she can still use her hand after slapping that bug in such manner for a number of years. I mean it looks like she's using dozens of extra finger movements. I suspect it's her way of maintaining timing. I try to keep my fingers on the bug, not thrashing around in the air...Take a look if you haven't seen this. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYhrSEERvbI http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYhrSEERvbI 73 Steve N4LQ

# 2062. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-13 14:21:09 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2057  Message: 2062

A better view of her finger movements is this video...Begin at 17:28
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mXrpkU7CCI http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mXrpkU7CCI

I estimate within 14 inches of the bug anything is in danger of being shredded by those 2" nails! I even see her thumb swivel to a vertical position at times.
Of course the resulting code is music to my ears. I think the 5 to 1 ratio is easier to copy than 3:1 anyway. The brain seems able to count high speed dits while the long dashes give it time to sink in.
Steve N4LQ

# 2063. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-13 15:44:50 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2057  Message: 2063

It appears that DA sends dashes similar to me, using the side of her
index finger, though my index finger is more curled
and DA's index finger appears to often be straight. Myself, I rather
wipe my finger and thumb along the paddles after
the initial contact to set the duration. DA rolls here fore arm and I go
between that and swinging mine. I have had the
carpal & cubital tunnel procedures performed on me. Never again, I hope.

On 2/13/2014 7:39 AM, n4lq@... wrote:
>
> I totally agree about not using fingers and it does seem like most bug
> ops are tapping out dashes with one or two fingers which results in
> rather short ragged sounding dashes. One of the most popular videos is
> that of DA sending the annual message on KPH. I watch that woman send
> and wonder how on earth she can still use her hand after slapping that
> bug in such manner for a number of years. I mean it looks like she's
> using dozens of extra finger movements. I suspect it's her way of
> maintaining timing. I try to keep my fingers on the bug, not thrashing
> around in the air...Take a look if you haven't seen this.
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYhrSEERvbI
>
> 73 Steve N4LQ

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2064. Collins Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-20 16:16:37 UTC
From: Steve Lybarger
Topic: 2064  Message: 2064

Hello Gang,

Did Collins manufacture their own bug ? When was it available ?

Steve, NU7T

# 2065. Re: [cw_bugs] Collins Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-20 16:40:25 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2064  Message: 2065

I don't think Collins made it, but the Cedar Rapids Bug, manufactured by Electric Specialty Mfg Co was manufactured in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, I think in the late 40s.  An ex employee of Collins could have had something to do with it, but I have no proof or good information.  I do have one of the keys that I bought on E-Bay and the company name and location is cast into the base.  There is no date or serial number plate like on Vibroplex.  It is the same general design as Vibroplex, but not as nicely manufactured.

Willis 'Cookie' Cooke, TDXS DX Chairman
K5EWJ & Trustee N5BPS, USS Cavalla, USS Stewart

---
From: Steve Lybarger <nu7t@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:16 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Collins Bug

Hello Gang,

Did Collins manufacture their own bug ?  When was it available ?

Steve, NU7T

# 2066. Re: [cw_bugs] Collins Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-21 00:58:30 UTC
From: Steve Lybarger
Topic: 2064  Message: 2066

Thank You, Cookie.
Steve, NU7T

# 2067. TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-23 14:11:29 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2067  Message: 2067

Here is a video I made while attempting to use the TW Olympic. There is a tendency to "slur" the transition from dah to dit unless the dah paddle is totally released. This little detail is absent in a normal bug. I'm not saying the technique can never be mastered but one has to ask the question, "Why bother?" and we hear the answer "Because we can!". I was the 3rd owner within a short time and the TW now has a 4th who is coming along nicely but I can recognize the mental struggle occurring during a long QSO as latency begins to take its toll. Keep up the good work OM!
The video explains: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhkkmOyk8Eo&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ&feature=c4-overview http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhkkmOyk8Eo&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ&feature=c4-overview

Steve N4LQ

# 2068. RE: TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-23 15:39:15 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2067  Message: 2068

```
Instructions to make the letter C. Regular bug:
1. Swing left.
2. Swing right.
3. Swing left.
4. Swing right.
5. Release.

TW Olympic:
1. Press right paddle.
2. Release right paddle
3. Press left paddle.
4. Release left paddle.
5. Press right paddle.
6. Release right paddle.
7. Press left paddle.
8. Release left paddle.
```

# 2069. Re: [cw_bugs] TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-23 20:42:37 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2067  Message: 2069

I have noticed this with some users of double paddle bugs. I believe it
comes from
keeping the fingers on the paddles like with a keyer paddles. I barely
touch my
paddles on a bug if not having a little space there. I have not noticed
a problem
with my double lever Buzza which I am now refurbishing. Maybe it is a
carry over
of Mac Key, "Slap it around." ;~)

You will hear similar problems with some iambic keyer users as well.

On 2/23/2014 8:11 AM, n4lq@... wrote:
>
> Here is a video I made while attempting to use the TW Olympic. There
> is a tendency to "slur" the transition from dah to dit unless the dah
> paddle is totally released. This little detail is absent in a normal
> bug. I'm not saying the technique can never be mastered but one has to
> ask the question, "Why bother?" and we hear the answer "Because we can!".
>
> I was the 3rd owner within a short time and the TW now has a 4th who
> is coming along nicely but I can recognize the mental struggle
> occurring during a long QSO as latency begins to take its toll. Keep
> up the good work OM!
> The video explains:
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhkkmOyk8Eo&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ&feature=c4-over
view
>
> Steve N4LQ

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka

http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2070. Re: [cw_bugs] TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-23 23:30:41 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2067  Message: 2070

That Buzza looks very similar to the 1936 Mac I have. There is only one lever for the operator to swing but 2 pivots. The only advantage I see is that vertical play can be adjusted out for both dot and dash as opposed to just the dot on a Vibroplex. I'm sure this cost more to build. steve n4lq

# 2071. Re: [cw_bugs] TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-24 04:25:01 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2067  Message: 2071

Hi, Steve -

??? You might be interested in this YouTube video of W5PEH operating a WB9LPU TinyBug, which is a dual-lever design.? He gets it up to about 40 wpm (much faster that I can go) and seems to have little trouble with the difference in lever arrangement.? For my part, if I operate a bug by rolling my wrist rather than using individual finger movements, I don't feel any difference.

??? Here is the URL:? http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-O-tjPQ095I

??? Here is another, by a less proficient operator:?
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57EPjbDkHto&list=UUnggdRrnRsaDOVXoxtb_XVQ

73 de Rich, WB9LPU
??
-----Original Message-----
From: n4lq@...
Sent: Feb 23, 2014 6:30 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] TW Olympic Video

?

That Buzza looks very similar to the 1936 Mac I have. There is only one lever for the operator to swing but 2 pivots. The only advantage I see is that vertical play can be adjusted out for both dot and dash as opposed to just the dot on a Vibroplex. I'm sure this cost more to build.?
steve n4lq

# 2072. Re: TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-24 17:48:02 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2067  Message: 2072

Hello Steve and All,

The Olympic is a Double Lever Bug.
The Olympic is a great feeling bug. I just dont understand why some seem to have trouble. You just have to understand the fact that it is a Double Lever Bug. If you are dropping dots as you call it then your timing is incorrect and/or your weight/speed is not compatible with the speed you are trying to send at. Why in the world would you want to depress the dah and the dit at the same time?? You dont do that on Vibroplex or similar bug wether it would let you or not. It is a very minor timing issue you have to get use to and it shouldn't be a problem at all.
Anywho....keep BUGGING..hi hi... here are a couple of Olympic videos on you tube.
Part 1 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlyPV12Hph4

Part 2 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gT74QCLdwk
73, Pete W5PEH

# 2073. Re: [cw_bugs] TW Olympic Video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-02-24 19:15:54 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2067  Message: 2073

Steve,

It looks like you are using the classic and convectional rolling wrist, no finger motion method with the Vibroplex Present I on, but you use your fingers with the Olympic bug.

If you use the rolling wrist method on the Olympic, you won't have the problem.

You wouldn't be able to send tens of thousands of characters a day with your fingers as commercial telegraphers did.

Finger sending is the biggest obstacle to sending with a bug, second to wanting to use a bug at 18 wpm or slower.

No finger movement !

73

David
N1EA
On Feb 23, 2014 9:12 AM, <n4lq@...> wrote:

>
>
> Here is a video I made while attempting to use the TW Olympic. There is a
> tendency to "slur" the transition from dah to dit unless the dah paddle is
> totally released. This little detail is absent in a normal bug. I'm not
> saying the technique can never be mastered but one has to ask the question,
> "Why bother?" and we hear the answer "Because we can!".
> I was the 3rd owner within a short time and the TW now has a 4th who is
> coming along nicely but I can recognize the mental struggle occurring
> during a long QSO as latency begins to take its toll. Keep up the good work
> OM!
> The video explains:
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhkkmOyk8Eo&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ&feature=c4-over
view
>
> Steve N4LQ
>
>
>
>

# 2074. TW olympic

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-02 21:52:09 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2074  Message: 2074

Have a TW Olympic bug for sale.

Don...w2xb

# 2075. Re: [cw_bugs] TW olympic

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-03 05:02:34 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2074  Message: 2075

How many George Washington's do you want as a ransome for it?

73

David
N1EA
On Mar 2, 2014 4:52 PM, <haircutter@...> wrote:

>
>
> Have a TW Olympic bug for sale.
>
>
> Don...w2xb
>
>
>
>

# 2076. Re: [cw_bugs] TW olympic

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-03 13:05:15 UTC
From: haircutter@verizon.net
Topic: 2074  Message: 2076

$200 includes shipping and insurance. Double boxed...only flaw is a steel screw replacing a small #3 brass screw.

Don...w2xb

-------Original Message-------

From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Date: 3/3/2014 12:02:36 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] TW olympic

How many George Washington's do you want as a ransome for it?
73
David
N1EA
On Mar 2, 2014 4:52 PM, <haircutter@...> wrote:

Have a TW Olympic bug for sale.

Don...w2xb

# 2077. Tw Olympic bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-04 22:08:27 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2077  Message: 2077

the TW Olympic bug is sold.....

Don...w2xb

# 2078. GHD bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-11 13:29:58 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2078  Message: 2078

```
Hello Group,
Still looking for a GHD bug to buy...

Don...w2xb
```

# 2079. RFTB Tomorrow night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-15 20:01:54 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2079  Message: 2079

Tomorrow night is the March 2014 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

# 2080. Start Up Pic..

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-16 00:14:43 UTC
From: <jer.sieg@...>
Topic: 2080  Message: 2080

To the 'Group Owner/Owners.. You can 'Change that 'Sombrero/Basket pic..(or whatever it is..?) Hover over the 'pic'..and 'change' ! Just changed my TR-751/851 User Group over.. 'Looks Mucho Better'.. (no Offense to the Sombrero/Basket folks !)
Jerry
VE6CPP

# 2081. Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 03:13:49 UTC
From: <vk7cw@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2081

Hi all,

I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit, however they are sold out.

On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III please email, which I did.

However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.

So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?

Does anybody have one that they no longer require?

Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks Steve VK7CW

# 2082. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 03:34:00 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2081  Message: 2082

That's a shame the product won't since back, we should all go there and ask for it and see if that helps.

Won't he release the parts list and schematic?

I use a Curtis EK-42 Keyer which used the Curtis IC chip. I advance the weight control and it denounces any contact feed trip through the straight key input.

I credit Jack W8MZV a fabulous bureau bug master now gone but not forgotten with this year idea. I always wondered how he got his dots so perfect. When he told me, I went and found one of those keyers.

73

David
N1EA

73

David
N1EA
On Mar 16, 2014 11:13 PM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi all,
>
>
> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
> however they are sold out.
>
>
> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III
> please email, which I did.
>
>
> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit
> II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of
> inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
>
> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>
>
> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>

>
> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
>
> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>
>
> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2083. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 03:51:32 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2081  Message: 2083

Steve,

He gives the schematic and other info here for the older version that was electrically the same. http://www.wb9kzy.com/bugde.htm

Your welcome to join my CW group over on qth.net. We need some Tasmanian Devilish CW operators. I can't get VK4EI to join either, so I guess I will have to start including premiums with each new sign up, a free dingo and a tin ear perhaps?

73

DR
N1EA

73

David N1EA
On Mar 16, 2014 11:34 PM, "D.J.J. Ring, Jr." <n1ea@...> wrote:

> That's a shame the product won't since back, we should all go there and
> ask for it and see if that helps.
>
> Won't he release the parts list and schematic?
>
> I use a Curtis EK-42 Keyer which used the Curtis IC chip. I advance the
> weight control and it denounces any contact feed trip through the straight
> key input.
>
> I credit Jack W8MZV a fabulous bureau bug master now gone but not
> forgotten with this year idea. I always wondered how he got his dots so
> perfect. When he told me, I went and found one of those keyers.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
> On Mar 16, 2014 11:13 PM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Hi all,

>>
>>
>> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
>> however they are sold out.
>>
>>
>> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit
>> III please email, which I did.
>>
>>
>> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher
>> kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of
>> inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>>
>>
>> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>>
>>
>> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>
>>
>> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>
>>
>> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>
>>
>> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>

# 2084. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 04:27:29 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2081 Message: 2084

Hi, Steve.

I was going to build one from his schematic that DR pointed you to, but found if I 1) Polished my
my dot contacts to a shine, both stationary and swing side. 2) Put a capacitor across the key line,
I have very little contact bounce. This is, of course, with the weight arm correctly contacting the
damper. The capacitor value varies with different rigs, but I run between 0.1 uF 5.0 uF.

I was working on a circuit that used the keying line to actually charge a small battery to run a
low current circuit, but other things got in the way.

What key are you having problems with, Steve?

On 3/16/2014 9:13 PM, vk7cw@... wrote:
>
> Hi all,
>
>
> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
> however they are sold out.
>
>
> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit
> III please email, which I did.
>
>
> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher
> kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple
> of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
>
> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>
>
> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>
>
> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
>
> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>

>
> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9429 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
http://www.justanswer.com/lp-1eh8-tool-repair
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2085. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 04:53:20 UTC
From: <vk7cw@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2085

Hi DR,

Thanks for the reply. Have seen the schematic, but being rather technically challenged I would prefer to get the kit. Had a quick look at qth.net but could not find your CW group.
73 Steve VK7CW

# 2086. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 04:56:42 UTC
From: <vk7cw@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2086

Hi Joe,
Thanks for the info.
I am using (or rather not using) at brand new Vizkey right angle bug. I have a Yaesu FT-1000 and have tried capacitors of varying sizes across the key line. It did help but does not totally eliminate the problem.
The contact on the bug are brand new and clean.
73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2087. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 05:20:23 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2081  Message: 2087

Steve,

Shipping to Australia bumps things up a bit.

Check for mechanical soundness that the U shaped dot spring is attached securely, that the trunnion screws keep the bearings in place and they're not jumping out of surface electrical contact with the supporting yoke which is at Earth potential. Good dashes happen when there is a good bang at the contacts! Many on the new comers think that bugs work with micro inch spacings like a paddle can work, but the dots will be terrible unless they crash into the fit contacts.

Check to make sure that the current carrying portion of the circuit is solid. I've found terminal screws where the key line attaches which were loose, especially the bottom grounding flathead machine screw that is inserted from the bottom.

Bad dots are either electrical or electromechanical. A small fast relay on the output will help you diagnose if the problem is the switching of your transmitter. When you put a relay in, you will not have partially "on" states which some transmitters made in the 1980s had troubles with, but you have another source of relay bounce.

Eliminate the mechanical causes of bad dots first. Double check, because I've been fooled after spending hours of capacitors and small coils!

73

David
N1EA
On Mar 17, 2014 12:56 AM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi Joe,
>
> Thanks for the info.
>
> I am using (or rather not using) at brand new Vizkey right angle bug. I
> have a Yaesu FT-1000 and have tried capacitors of varying sizes across the
> key line. It did help but does not totally eliminate the problem.
>
> The contact on the bug are brand new and clean.
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>
>

>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2088. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 06:40:25 UTC
From: Matt Maguire
Topic: 2081  Message: 2088

I think a standard word is about 50 dot lengths, so at 30wpm, each dot would be about 0.04s.

If you look at the "descratcher" circuit, he has a 1M resistor and a 0.01uF capacitor, which forms a time constand of 0.01s. So, with his circuit, you probably don't want to go a lot faster than 30wpm.

If you wanted to try putting your own capacitor so that you have a similar time constant, then you need to know the impedance of your keying circuit. Theoretically you could put a digital multimeter on voltage range across the key to measure open circuit voltage Voc, and put a DMM ammeter across the key to measure short circuit current Isc. Then DC impedance Z=Voc/Isc.

Then, to calculate the capacitor C = 0.01 / Z or
C = 0.01 * Isc / Voc

Well, that's the theory anyway, I'd be interested to hear how it works in practice :-)

Of course another thing might be to use a piece of clean paper to clean the contacts.

73, Matt VK2RQ

On Mon, Mar 17, 2014 at 3:56 PM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi Joe,
>
> Thanks for the info.
>
> I am using (or rather not using) at brand new Vizkey right angle bug. I
> have a Yaesu FT-1000 and have tried capacitors of varying sizes across the
> key line. It did help but does not totally eliminate the problem.
>
> The contact on the bug are brand new and clean.
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2089. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 07:17:42 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2081  Message: 2089

Matt,

Now I know why it was so exciting to work at a coastal radiotelegraph station where they had a technical staff and an operations staff -- both had at least a 2nd class radiotelegraph certificate, so they both were experts at Morse, but the engineering staff came up with ingenious solutions that made the operator's job just so much better.

Everyone here has just seen that done!

Chatham Radio WCC here in Massachusetts had a dash alarm that would trigger if one of the transmitters hung up, but one of the operators used a side swiper and sometimes his dashes would get extra long and trigger the alarm!

Bravo Zulu!

73

DR
ex Tuckerton Radio / WSC
N1EA Wacking electrons senseless with Vibroplex keys since 1965.
On Mar 17, 2014 2:40 AM, "Matt Maguire" <matt.vk2rq@...> wrote:

>
>
> I think a standard word is about 50 dot lengths, so at 30wpm, each dot
> would be about 0.04s.
>
> If you look at the "descratcher" circuit, he has a 1M resistor and a
> 0.01uF capacitor, which forms a time constand of 0.01s. So, with his
> circuit, you probably don't want to go a lot faster than 30wpm.
>
> If you wanted to try putting your own capacitor so that you have a similar
> time constant, then you need to know the impedance of your keying circuit.
> Theoretically you could put a digital multimeter on voltage range across
> the key to measure open circuit voltage Voc, and put a DMM ammeter across
> the key to measure short circuit current Isc. Then DC impedance Z=Voc/Isc.
>
> Then, to calculate the capacitor C = 0.01 / Z or
> C = 0.01 * Isc / Voc
>
> Well, that's the theory anyway, I'd be interested to hear how it works in
> practice :-)
>
> Of course another thing might be to use a piece of clean paper to clean
> the contacts.
>

> 73, Matt VK2RQ
>
>
> On Mon, Mar 17, 2014 at 3:56 PM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Hi Joe,
>>
>> Thanks for the info.
>>
>> I am using (or rather not using) at brand new Vizkey right angle bug. I
>> have a Yaesu FT-1000 and have tried capacitors of varying sizes across the
>> key line. It did help but does not totally eliminate the problem.
>>
>> The contact on the bug are brand new and clean.
>>
>> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2090. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 10:54:36 UTC
From: <vk7cw@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2090

Hi Matt,

Thanks for the info and yes all sounds good in theory, but like you say might be easier to clean the contacts, which I have already done.

73 Steve VK7CW

# 2091. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 13:14:00 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2081  Message: 2091

Hi Steve,
You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049
inverting buffer. Use two of the buffers in series add power and you
are done. I use one of these with all my bugs.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... wrote:
>
> Hi all,
>
>
> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
> however they are sold out.
>
>
> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit
> III please email, which I did.
>
>
> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher
> kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple
> of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
>
> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>
>
> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>
>
> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
>
> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>
>
> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>

# 2092. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 14:40:34 UTC
From: <haircutter@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2092

Hello Steve,
I just received an e-mail from a ham that has one for $13. I posted an ad on QTh.com to see if any where around. If your interested in it e-mail me and I will send you all the info...

Don...w2xb

# 2093. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 14:43:07 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2081  Message: 2093

How to simply de-scratch your bug's dits ...

It is easy ...

1) polish the contacts into convex mirrors. today's low current radios will not pit them. Having done that all you will ever need to do is put deox on them occasionally.

if that doesn't totally cure it, then,

2) put a point one mfd cap across the contacts. It will load up enough to bridge the scratchiness which modern radios try to follow.

if, however, you have an old bug, then,

3) you might have severe contact bounce due to a weak dit spring. You can replace the dit spring, the one mounted on the lever and to which a contact is attached, or, you can take a small piece of foam, or a foldered piece of QSl card (we're talking less than a quarter inch square here), and put it between the bent contact spring in such a way as to shorten the spring stiffening it up.

It does not need a hi-tech solution.

73, Fred - KT5X

On Sun, Mar 16, 2014 at 9:13 PM, <vk7cw@...> wrote:

>
>
> Hi all,
>
>
> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
> however they are sold out.
>
>
> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III
> please email, which I did.
>
>
> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit
> II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of
> inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
>
> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?

>
>
> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>
>
> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
>
> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>
>
> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>
>

# 2094. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 15:14:00 UTC
From: Dave Raycroft
Topic: 233  Message: 2094

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (March 19, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday March 20, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201403.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7170+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2095. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 16:21:02 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 2081  Message: 2095

George:
If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two would be ~100ns, why wouldn't the output simply follow the input as the dot sratch time is likely to be in the order of ms, one would think?  What am I missing here?
jerome - va7vv

---
From: George <at6c@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Hi Steve,
You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049
inverting buffer.  Use two of the buffers in series add power and
you are done.  I use one of these with all my bugs.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... wrote:

>Hi all,
>
>
>I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit, however they are sold out.
>
>
>On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III please email, which I did.
>
>
>However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
>
>So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>
>
>Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>
>
>Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
>

>Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>
>
>Thanks Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>

# 2096. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 17:35:30 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2081  Message: 2096

Jerrome,
Not sure what you are asking but these are inverting buffers so using
two gets you back to the same phase and also insures a square wave form
output. I have checked with a scope and there is no bounce on the output.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:
> George:
> If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two would be ~100ns,
> why wouldn't the output simply follow the input as the dot sratch time
> is likely to be in the order of ms, one would think? What am I
> missing here?
> jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
> ---
> *From:* George <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
> Hi Steve,
> You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049
> inverting buffer. Use two of the buffers in series add power and you
> are done. I use one of these with all my bugs.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... <mailto:vk7cw@...> wrote:
>> Hi all,
>>
>> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
>> however they are sold out.
>>
>> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher
>> kit III please email, which I did.
>>
>> However the return email was not good stating that the bug
>> descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been
>> only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they
>> probably wont bother.
>>
>> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?

>>
>> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>
>> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>
>> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>
>> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2097. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 19:08:17 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 2081  Message: 2097

I believe you that it works; my question is by what mechanism?

Seems to me that the time of the bouncing is long compared to the time it takes the two buffers to switch (by 1 maybe 2 orders of magnitude: ns vs. ms), so why doesn't the output of the buffers follow the input of the buffers exactly, and reproduce the bounce?  That is my question <g>.

The only things I can think of is that the bounce is integrated out by the high input resistance and the the tiny gate to source capacitance x 2. But that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because that input capacitance needs to be charged before the device can switch.

Maybe the bounce time is a whole lot shorter than I think?

jerome - va7vv

_____
From: George <at6c@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 10:35 AM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Jerrome,
Not sure what you are asking but these are inverting buffers so
using two gets you back to the same phase and also insures a square
wave form output.  I have checked with a scope and there is no
bounce on the output.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:

>George:
>If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two
would be ~100ns, why wouldn't the output simply follow the
input as the dot sratch time is likely to be in the order
of ms, one would think?  What am I missing here?
>jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>_____
> From: George <at6c@...>

>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
>
>
>
>Hi Steve,
>You can build your own key contact
de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049 inverting
buffer.  Use two of the buffers in
series add power and you are done.  I
use one of these with all my bugs.
>73, George
>W2GS
>
>
>On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... wrote:
>
>
>>Hi all,
>>
>>
>>I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit, however they are sold out.
>>
>>
>>On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III please email, which I did.
>>
>>
>>However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>>
>>
>>So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>>
>>
>>Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>
>>
>>Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>
>>
>>Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>
>>
>>Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>

>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2098. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 20:03:56 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2081  Message: 2098

Jerome,
Sorry you are correct. I built this about three years ago and when I
read your message I understood that you were right that there had to
either be some sort of hystersis or an integrator to hold the input up
until the bouncing stopped. I opened the box up and sure enough there
was a capacitor in the input circuit. Memory is great, I wish I still
had mine.
73, George
W2GS
On 3/17/2014 2:08 PM, romers romansky wrote:
> I believe you that it works; my question is by what mechanism?
>
> Seems to me that the time of the bouncing is long compared to the time
> it takes the two buffers to switch (by 1 maybe 2 orders of magnitude:
> ns vs. ms), so why doesn't the output of the buffers follow the input
> of the buffers exactly, and reproduce the bounce? That is my question
> <g>.
>
> The only things I can think of is that the bounce is integrated out by
> the high input resistance and the the tiny gate to source capacitance
> x 2. But that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because that input
> capacitance needs to be charged before the device can switch.
>
> Maybe the bounce time is a whole lot shorter than I think?
>
> jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
> ---
> *From:* George <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 10:35 AM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
> Jerrome,
> Not sure what you are asking but these are inverting buffers so using
> two gets you back to the same phase and also insures a square wave
> form output. I have checked with a scope and there is no bounce on
> the output.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:
>> George:

>> If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two would be
>> ~100ns, why wouldn't the output simply follow the input as the dot
>> sratch time is likely to be in the order of ms, one would think? What
>> am I missing here?
>> jerome - va7vv
>>
>>
>>
>> ---
>> *From:* George <at6c@...> <mailto:at6c@...>
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>>
>> Hi Steve,
>> You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049
>> inverting buffer. Use two of the buffers in series add power and
>> you are done. I use one of these with all my bugs.
>> 73, George
>> W2GS
>>
>> On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... <mailto:vk7cw@...>
>> wrote:
>>> Hi all,
>>>
>>> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
>>> however they are sold out.
>>>
>>> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher
>>> kit III please email, which I did.
>>>
>>> However the return email was not good stating that the bug
>>> descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been
>>> only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they
>>> probably wont bother.
>>>
>>> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>>>
>>> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>>
>>> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>>
>>> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>>
>>> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>

>
>
>
>

# 2099. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 20:54:24 UTC
From: romers romansky
Topic: 2081  Message: 2099

Ha!  Me too...  I used to know this stuff, but nowadays, it doesn't take much to shake my confidence (age 76 <g>). You didn't happen to note the value of the cap, did you?
Best,
j

---
From: George <at6c@...>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 1:03 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Jerome,
Sorry you are correct.  I built this about three years ago and when I read your message I understood that you were right that there had to either be some sort of hystersis or an integrator to hold the input up until the bouncing stopped.  I opened the box up and sure enough there was a capacitor in the input circuit.  Memory is great, I wish I still had mine.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/17/2014 2:08 PM, romers romansky wrote:

>I believe you that it works; my question is by what mechanism?
>
>Seems to me that the time of the bouncing is long compared to the time it takes the two buffers to switch (by 1 maybe 2 orders of magnitude: ns vs. ms), so why doesn't the output of the buffers follow the input of the buffers exactly, and reproduce the bounce?  That is my question <g>.
>
>The only things I can think of is that the bounce is integrated out by the high input resistance and the the tiny gate to source capacitance x 2. But that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because that input capacitance needs to be charged before the device can switch.
>
>Maybe the bounce time is a whole lot shorter than I think?
>
>jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
>
>

>
>
>_____
> From: George <at6c@...>
>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 10:35 AM
>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
>
>
>
>Jerrome,
>Not sure what you are asking but these
are inverting buffers so using two gets
you back to the same phase and also
insures a square wave form output.  I
have checked with a scope and there is
no bounce on the output.
>73, George
>W2GS
>
>
>On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:
>
>
>>George:
>>If the tranistion time of this
part is ~50ns, and two would be
~100ns, why wouldn't the output
simply follow the input as the dot
sratch time is likely to be in the
order of ms, one would think?
What am I missing here?
>>jerome - va7vv
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>_____
>> From: George <at6c@...>
>>To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>>Sent: Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
>>Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>>
>>
>>
>>

>>Hi Steve,
>>You can build
your own key
contact
de-bouncer using
a CMOS 4049
inverting
buffer.  Use
two of the
buffers in
series add power
and you are
done.  I use one
of these with
all my bugs.
>>73, George
>>W2GS
>>
>>
>>On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@...m wrote:
>>
>>
>>>Hi all,
>>>
>>>
>>>I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit, however they are sold out.
>>>
>>>
>>>On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit III please email, which I did.
>>>
>>>
>>>However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>>>
>>>
>>>So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>>>
>>>
>>>Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>>
>>>
>>>Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>>
>>>
>>>Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>>
>>>

>>>Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2100. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 22:17:43 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2081  Message: 2100

It was in a small project box on a piece of perf board and I didn't want
to wiggle it that much when I looked so I didn't get the value. If you
need it I can draw the circuit with the values I used and send a copy.
73, George
W2GS

On 3/17/2014 3:54 PM, romers romansky wrote:
> Ha! Me too... I used to know this stuff, but nowadays, it doesn't
> take much to shake my confidence (age 76 <g>). You didn't happen to
> note the value of the cap, did you?
> Best,
> j
>
>
>
> ---
> *From:* George <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 1:03 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
> Jerome,
> Sorry you are correct. I built this about three years ago and when I
> read your message I understood that you were right that there had to
> either be some sort of hystersis or an integrator to hold the input up
> until the bouncing stopped. I opened the box up and sure enough there
> was a capacitor in the input circuit. Memory is great, I wish I still
> had mine.
> 73, George
> W2GS
> On 3/17/2014 2:08 PM, romers romansky wrote:
>> I believe you that it works; my question is by what mechanism?
>>
>> Seems to me that the time of the bouncing is long compared to the
>> time it takes the two buffers to switch (by 1 maybe 2 orders of
>> magnitude: ns vs. ms), so why doesn't the output of the buffers
>> follow the input of the buffers exactly, and reproduce the bounce?
>> That is my question <g>.
>>
>> The only things I can think of is that the bounce is integrated out
>> by the high input resistance and the the tiny gate to source
>> capacitance x 2. But that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because
>> that input capacitance needs to be charged before the device can switch.
>>
>> Maybe the bounce time is a whole lot shorter than I think?

>>
>> jerome - va7vv
>>
>>
>>
>> ---
>> *From:* George <at6c@...> <mailto:at6c@...>
>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 10:35 AM
>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>>
>> Jerrome,
>> Not sure what you are asking but these are inverting buffers so using
>> two gets you back to the same phase and also insures a square wave
>> form output. I have checked with a scope and there is no bounce on
>> the output.
>> 73, George
>> W2GS
>>
>> On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:
>>> George:
>>> If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two would be
>>> ~100ns, why wouldn't the output simply follow the input as the dot
>>> sratch time is likely to be in the order of ms, one would think?
>>> What am I missing here?
>>> jerome - va7vv
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> ---
>>> *From:* George <at6c@...> <mailto:at6c@...>
>>> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>>> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
>>> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>>>
>>> Hi Steve,
>>> You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049
>>> inverting buffer. Use two of the buffers in series add power and
>>> you are done. I use one of these with all my bugs.
>>> 73, George
>>> W2GS
>>>
>>> On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... <mailto:vk7cw@...>
>>> wrote:
>>>> Hi all,
>>>>
>>>> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher
>>>> kit, however they are sold out.
>>>>
>>>> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher

>>>> kit III please email, which I did.
>>>>
>>>> However the return email was not good stating that the bug
>>>> descratcher kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been
>>>> only a couple of inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they
>>>> probably wont bother.
>>>>
>>>> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>>>>
>>>> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>>>>
>>>> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>>>>
>>>> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>>>>
>>>> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2101. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-17 22:58:31 UTC
From: <vk7cw@...>
Topic: 2081  Message: 2101

Hi Don,
Many thanks and greatly appreciated. Email sent.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2102. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-18 01:20:14 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2081  Message: 2102

George,

You can attach a file to a message sent to this group and it will go to all
except those who get DIGEST mode subscription.

73

DR
N1EA
On Mar 17, 2014 6:17 PM, "George" <at6c@...> wrote:

>
>
> It was in a small project box on a piece of perf board and I didn't want
> to wiggle it that much when I looked so I didn't get the value. If you
> need it I can draw the circuit with the values I used and send a copy.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/17/2014 3:54 PM, romers romansky wrote:
>
>
> Ha! Me too... I used to know this stuff, but nowadays, it doesn't take
> much to shake my confidence (age 76 <g>). You didn't happen to note the
> value of the cap, did you?
> Best,
> j
>
>
>
> ----------
> *From:* George <at6c@...> <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 1:03 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
>
> Jerome,
> Sorry you are correct. I built this about three years ago and when I read
> your message I understood that you were right that there had to either be
> some sort of hystersis or an integrator to hold the input up until the
> bouncing stopped. I opened the box up and sure enough there was a
> capacitor in the input circuit. Memory is great, I wish I still had mine.
> 73, George
> W2GS
> On 3/17/2014 2:08 PM, romers romansky wrote:

>
>
> I believe you that it works; my question is by what mechanism?
>
> Seems to me that the time of the bouncing is long compared to the time it
> takes the two buffers to switch (by 1 maybe 2 orders of magnitude: ns vs.
> ms), so why doesn't the output of the buffers follow the input of the
> buffers exactly, and reproduce the bounce? That is my question <g>.
>
> The only things I can think of is that the bounce is integrated out by the
> high input resistance and the the tiny gate to source capacitance x 2. But
> that doesn't make a lot of sense to me, because that input capacitance
> needs to be charged before the device can switch.
>
> Maybe the bounce time is a whole lot shorter than I think?
>
> jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
> ---
> *From:* George <at6c@bellsouth.net> <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 10:35 AM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit
>
>
> Jerrome,
> Not sure what you are asking but these are inverting buffers so using two
> gets you back to the same phase and also insures a square wave form
> output. I have checked with a scope and there is no bounce on the output.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/17/2014 11:21 AM, romers romansky wrote:
>
>
> George:
> If the tranistion time of this part is ~50ns, and two would be ~100ns, why
> wouldn't the output simply follow the input as the dot sratch time is
> likely to be in the order of ms, one would think? What am I missing here?
> jerome - va7vv
>
>
>
> ---
> *From:* George <at6c@...> <at6c@...>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Monday, March 17, 2014 6:14 AM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit

>
>
> Hi Steve,
> You can build your own key contact de-bouncer using a CMOS 4049 inverting
> buffer. Use two of the buffers in series add power and you are done. I
> use one of these with all my bugs.
> 73, George
> W2GS
>
> On 3/16/2014 10:13 PM, vk7cw@... wrote:
>
>
> Hi all,
>
> I am desperately chasing a Jackson Harbor Press bug descratcher kit,
> however they are sold out.
>
> On the web page it says if you are interested in a bug descratcher kit
> III please email, which I did.
>
> However the return email was not good stating that the bug descratcher
> kit II will not be brought back. And as there had been only a couple of
> inquires regarding the descratcher kit III they probably wont bother.
>
> So, my question is does anyone know where I can source one?
>
> Does anybody have one that they no longer require?
>
> Is there any other type of descratcher kit available?
>
> Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.
>
> Thanks Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2103. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-18 14:27:45 UTC
From: <F6EEQ@...>
Topic: 2057  Message: 2103

I come late in this post, but this is most interesting.

I wanted to buy an INTREPID and I read in this thread that I1QOD double paddle is best for QRQ. This is also something I discussed with some French hams in recent QSO.
Begali seemed nicebecause the concept is really different and mechanically interesting.
I2QOD is more "classical", but may be more suited for speed.

I'm not really QRQ man (at least now) but you may always hope!!

Thanks for your ideas.

# 2104. Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-19 12:37:44 UTC
From: <n4lq@...>
Topic: 2057  Message: 2104

Dr. F6eeq It is beyond my understanding how a double levered bug could be considered faster than a single lever bug. Maybe your French hams can explain - however having used one I can only speak from experience that the extra lever certainly increases the number of movements required to make most characters and you must concentrate to avoid firing both dot and dash levers at the same instant.
Yes the Begali Intrepid is different and interesting as are a lot of things that are not practical. I am sure the I1QOD is the same way however he does make a J-36 replica. That model may be the easiest to use however you pay dearly for quality. If I were recommending a "new" bug it would be a simple Vibroplex Standard directly from Vibroplex. The design has withstood the test of time and the quality is good. 73 Steve N4LQ

# 2105. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-19 13:39:58 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2057  Message: 2105

DA's elaborate dance of the fingers is because she has long fingernails.

I was curious to see how nails made picking up small parts like small machine screws -- they do, but it feels so strange because I thought you'd feel the screws, but you don't, but I took videos and you'll notice that to send I have to modify the way I send, see video UK and Swedish style sending by N1EA: http://youtu.be/9HPsZ6VLvLE

You can see my demo of rolling wrist dash sending here http://youtube.com/watch?v=2NjjviNVaW8 and also at the end of this video. semi-automatic key "bug" pendulum damper adjustment: http://youtu.be/NpAuWL7vnMI

I chopped my fingernails after my experiment, it's the last body experiment since the four months at sea beard experiment of 1981 which produced a multicolored brown-black-red-white Brillo pad beard that made me understand why my neck but razor rashes.

73

David
On Feb 13, 2014 9:21 AM, <n4lq@...> wrote:

>
>
> A better view of her finger movements is this video...Begin at 17:28
> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mXrpkU7CCI
> I estimate within 14 inches of the bug anything is in danger of being
> shredded by those 2" nails! I even see her thumb swivel to a vertical
> position at times.
> Of course the resulting code is music to my ears. I think the 5 to 1 ratio
> is easier to copy than 3:1 anyway. The brain seems able to count high speed
> dits while the long dashes give it time to sink in.
> Steve N4LQ
>
>
>
>

# 2106. Re: BEGALI BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-03-19 14:37:37 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2057  Message: 2106

I have both bugs and can send QRQ on both keys. The Frattini and the Intrepid are fine keys. There is an initial learning curve on becoming familiar with the adjustments. I feel the Begali has a more precise and controlled feel to it. I can send as fast with my 1914 Vibroplex Blue Racer as I can on the other two and also on my 1935 Junior. If I had to make a decision and the two keys you mention are the only ones you are deciding on I would recommend the Begali. I have never had a problem with it and if I did Piero would take care of it without question.
I feel there is a big difference in feel with the Begali and the Frattini. The Begali being the more precise and craftmanship top of the line.
Good luck es 73,
Pete W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S™ III, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2107. Fwd: [CVCC_Members] FYI.....RM-11708 FCC comments will close soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-04-21 18:42:33 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2107  Message: 2107

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S™ III, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2108. Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 01:42:17 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2108  Message: 2108

"In practice good Morse senders emphasize their sending as a person does his words in talking.
The condition of the wire necessitates the emphasis of certain letters or portions of letters
at times, the operator relying upon the "feel" of the wire at the instant that a letter or portion of a letter is to be formed and also on the ability of the receiver. This emphasis is accomplished almost entirely by the lengthening or shortening the dashes and spaces, the speed of the dots remaining constant. It is an important feature of my present invention that
this perfect control of the instrument and power to emphasize his sending is retained by the
operator, while at the same time any number of dots may be produced by a single nerve exertion.
As there are all classes of operators, it has been found that better time can be made by sending
in one way to one operator and in another way to others, the different styles of sending not
depending so much upon the variation of the speed of sending as a whole as upon variations of certain impulses in making dashes and also the ability to vary the speed of words.
These and kindred features have been the stronghold of the Morse key and the cause of the practical
failure of all automatic transmitters heretofore devised."

# 2109. Re: [cw_bugs] Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 08:40:24 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2108  Message: 2109

There's a wealth of logic and truth in that statement. A "Lake Erie Swing" on its own is a real pain in the arse, but occasional emphasis - especially correcting a misinterpretation of my QSD at the other end - can help much more that mere repetition.

I find also that the coarser movements in the way I use a bug seem to overcome to a slight extent (I mean 'slightly', sorry !) the effects of the grit in my aged joints which show up rather using a gentle magnetic 'paddle'. Unfortunately, my Mac key is in England, & out here I have to fall back on a Vibro 'Presentation' I had 50 years ago. I can't keep carrying it back & forth !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2110. Re: [cw_bugs] Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 15:56:16 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2108  Message: 2110

Hello Mort,

I think what is meant is that there are subtle changes to the characteristics of the way the Morse is sent over wire and by expansion over radio.

Years ago a friend told me that after a stink in the Royal Navy he wanted to obtain his PMG license and go sailiing about in the Merchant Navy (Merchant Marine), but someone asked him to send, and then softly "tut-tutted" and said, "You'll never make it, you don't send like a merchant navy radio officer." and accepting the pronouncement, my friend moved on with life, not entering that profession.

He explaiined to me that he could recognize the characteristics of a merchant radio officer by the way they sent. "When there is static, the dots are a bit longer in length and in proportion, the dashes, too. In tropical static the interelement (between dots and/or dashes) spacing is just a bit longer. He says (and I agree) that this was done through years of practice in passing traffic, to get the message through in the tropical static, dots were slightly lengthened so that they would be not missed by being covered up by a static crackle, the spacings lengthened so that the operator could tell there was neither a dot or dash being sent that wasn't covered up by static.

With a semi-automatic as Martin writes, he ignores the changes to dots which would require the Viibroplex instrument being set up to accomodate the heavier dots needed - but in the Merchant service, this was done nearly automatically to compensate for the heavy mechanical relays (electronc switches) that were keyed by the operator and which in turn keyed the electronics of the transmitters.

The dialects of Lake Erie Morse were used amoung operators who knew the sound, a nearly identical sounding variation was used by South American flight radio officers especially, but it was brought back into the States by such veterans like Zip Zellon, W1IE who worked for many years at HIA in Dominican Republic and then at WEAN for Eastern Airlines at their New York Morse station.

These sounds were heard on the ham bands, Zip like most professionals adjusted his Morse to match his audience could send with such affections but didn't except to have a bit of fun. But in his sending you could hear the characteristics of an excellent Morse operator - and our Flight Radio Officers were the cream of the crop of Morse operators. The characters that are very quick: E I S H 5 would have slightly more spacing between them to allow the receiving operator to copy easily with a typewriter or pencil.

It is this attention to the man at the other end continuously accounting for the perceived static and QRM heard through the receiver when sending that really does something to the sending operator, he seems to sense the soul of his transmitter and reach out in space and time to the mind of the receiving operator. This perception, if incorrect has long been noticed, and is addressed in Thomas Raddall's book about Sable Island Radio / MCT / VCT recounted as a fiction: http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/Raddall_All_Exerpts.pdf

73

David N1EA

On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:40 AM, 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@ntlworld.com[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> □
>
>
> There's a wealth of logic and truth in that statement. A "Lake Erie
> Swing" on its own is a real pain in the arse, but *occasional* emphasis
> - especially correcting a misinterpretation of my QSD at the other end -
> can help much more that mere repetition.
>
> I find also that the coarser movements in the way I use a bug seem to
> overcome to a slight extent (I mean 'slightly', sorry !) the effects of
> the grit in my aged joints which show up rather using a gentle magnetic
> 'paddle'. Unfortunately, my Mac key is in England, & out here I have to
> fall back on a Vibro 'Presentation' I had 50 years ago. I can't keep
> carrying it back & forth !
>
> 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>
>
>
>

# 2111. Re: [cw_bugs] Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 16:23:18 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2108 Message: 2111

Hi, David.

I am home and settling in, yet.

Am I confused or is old age settling in? Way back when I was in
Michigan, we called the Great Lakes fists a "Lake Erie Chop,"
not a "Swing" as it might well describe a have frozen operator working
on that damned able choppy shallow Lake Erie! Now,
the southern climates like the Caribbean produced the "Banana Boat
Swing" as an operator carried those yellow fruit away
to northern climates. Of course we move more relaxingly down here, but
up on the Great Lakes, we scurried about (keeps one
warmer.) More typical of the lesser Erie Chop operators were the extra
dits and the Banana boat operators had a drawn out
dah or two. Of course, both types would venture about and radio waves
were not limited to the boat or ships location. ☺

On 5/13/2014 9:56 AM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Hello Mort,
>
> I think what is meant is that there are subtle changes to the
> characteristics of the way the Morse is sent over wire and by
> expansion over radio.
>
> Years ago a friend told me that after a stink in the Royal Navy he
> wanted to obtain his PMG license and go sailiing about in the Merchant
> Navy (Merchant Marine), but someone asked him to send, and then softly
> "tut-tutted" and said, "You'll never make it, you don't send like a
> merchant navy radio officer." and accepting the pronouncement, my
> friend moved on with life, not entering that profession.
>
> He explaiined to me that he could recognize the characteristics of a
> merchant radio officer by the way they sent. "When there is static,
> the dots are a bit longer in length and in proportion, the dashes,
> too. In tropical static the interelement (between dots and/or dashes)
> spacing is just a bit longer. He says (and I agree) that this was
> done through years of practice in passing traffic, to get the message
> through in the tropical static, dots were slightly lengthened so that
> they would be not missed by being covered up by a static crackle, the
> spacings lengthened so that the operator could tell there was neither
> a dot or dash being sent that wasn't covered up by static.
>
> With a semi-automatic as Martin writes, he ignores the changes to dots
> which would require the Viibroplex instrument being set up to
> accomodate the heavier dots needed - but in the Merchant service, this

> was done nearly automatically to compensate for the heavy mechanical
> relays (electronc switches) that were keyed by the operator and which
> in turn keyed the electronics of the transmitters.
>
> The dialects of Lake Erie Morse were used amoung operators who knew
> the sound, a nearly identical sounding variation was used by South
> American flight radio officers especially, but it was brought back
> into the States by such veterans like Zip Zellon, W1IE who worked for
> many years at HIA in Dominican Republic and then at WEAN for Eastern
> Airlines at their New York Morse station.
>
> These sounds were heard on the ham bands, Zip like most professionals
> adjusted his Morse to match his audience could send with such
> affections but didn't except to have a bit of fun. But in his sending
> you could hear the characteristics of an excellent Morse operator -
> and our Flight Radio Officers were the cream of the crop of Morse
> operators. The characters that are very quick: E I S H 5 would have
> slightly more spacing between them to allow the receiving operator to
> copy easily with a typewriter or pencil.
>
> It is this attention to the man at the other end continuously
> accounting for the perceived static and QRM heard through the receiver
> when sending that really does something to the sending operator, he
> seems to sense the soul of his transmitter and reach out in space and
> time to the mind of the receiving operator. This perception, if
> incorrect has long been noticed, and is addressed in Thomas Raddall's
> book about Sable Island Radio / MCT / VCT recounted as a fiction:
> http://www.qsl.net/n1ea/Raddall_All_Exerpts.pdf
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
>
>
> On Tue, May 13, 2014 at 4:40 AM, 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@...
> <mailto:mort.g2jl@...> [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
> □
>
>
> There's a wealth of logic and truth in that statement. A "Lake
> Erie Swing" on its own is a real pain in the arse, but
> /occasional/ emphasis - especially correcting a misinterpretation
> of my QSD at the other end - can help much more that mere repetition.
> I find also that the coarser movements in the way I use a bug seem
> to overcome to a slight extent (I mean 'slightly', sorry !) the
> effects of the grit in my aged joints which show up rather using a

> gentle magnetic 'paddle'. Unfortunately, my Mac key is in
> England, & out here I have to fall back on a Vibro 'Presentation'
> I had 50 years ago. I can't keep carrying it back & forth !
> 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>
>
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2112. Re: [cw_bugs] Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 17:41:46 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2108  Message: 2112

Well, I got the term 'L E Swing' from an English MN operator, who'd possibly mixed it up. I do know bananas don't come from Lake Erie, having seen them growing in foreign parts.

I learned Morse in the RAF, during my navigation training in GI-land by listening on an R1155 (our counterpart of the BC-348) to TASS news agency (in English !), RZA/RCI/RKE on around 6-3/4 MHz. He sent automatically at 25 wpm presumably so that competent opeators could write it with pen & paper. I started by getting Es & Ts, and soon picked up THE. So many words began with COM, -MA, -MUNIST, -MI, -MITTEE (Secret life of Walter ?) & so on that that soon followed. After a month or two, I was scribbling whole paragraphs Always trying to emulate the perfect spacing & machine precision did me good, doubtless, when I taught myself to send, later. My first QSO was when I asked in the air for a (navigational, not dope) fix. I called MQK from MQKOD (I remember after 62 years !)

When I left the RAF, I took the old R1155 with me. It didn't withstand the train journey. So, taking it to the local radio shop, the man told me it was lucky: he understood war-surplus gear, because he was a radio amateur. When I said I thought he was a professional, the whole thing was explained to me. He'd been in the MN & survived the North Atlantic convoys. He took up hamming, and started a radio shop. His OM set him up, having a shop himself a couple of miles away. My Father-in-law and brother--in-law wewe both in the RN as radio operators, and couldn't quite believe I wanted to do for fun what they did for a living, but young Sid became a ham too on leaving the navy, now SK.

How I ramble on ! Sorry ! 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2113. Re: [cw_bugs] Quote from Horace Martin - So True

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-13 17:48:16 UTC
From: Brian Carling
Topic: 2108  Message: 2113

A great read Mort!
I leRned on an R1155 too!

Ex-A4941 (RSGB)
G3XLQ

Best regards - Bry Carling

> On May 13, 2014, at 1:41 PM, "'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> □
>
> Well, I got the term 'L E Swing' from an English MN operator, who'd possibly mixed it up. I do know bananas don't come from Lake Erie, having seen them growing in foreign parts.
>
> I learned Morse in the RAF, during my navigation training in GI-land by listening on an R1155 (our counterpart of the BC-348) to TASS news agency (in English !), RZA/RCI/RKE on around 6-3/4 MHz. He sent automatically at 25 wpm presumably so that competent opeators could write it with pen & paper. I started by getting Es & Ts, and soon picked up THE. So many words began with COM, -MA, -MUNIST, -MI, -MITTEE (Secret life of Walter ?) & so on that that soon followed. After a month or two, I was scribbling whole paragraphs Always trying to emulate the perfect spacing & machine precision did me good, doubtless, when I taught myself to send, later. My first QSO was when I asked in the air for a (navigational, not dope) fix. I called MQK from MQKOD (I remember after 62 years !)
>
> When I left the RAF, I took the old R1155 with me. It didn't withstand the train journey. So, taking it to the local radio shop, the man told me it was lucky: he understood war-surplus gear, because he was a radio amateur. When I said I thought he was a professional, the whole thing was explained to me. He'd been in the MN & survived the North Atlantic convoys. He took up hamming, and started a radio shop. His OM set him up, having a shop himself a couple of miles away. My Father-in-law and brother--in-law wewe both in the RN as radio operators, and couldn't quite believe I wanted to do for fun what they did for a living, but young Sid became a ham too on leaving the navy, now SK.
>
> How I ramble on ! Sorry ! 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>
>
>

# 2114. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-05-20 22:58:15 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 233  Message: 2114

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our May Sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (May 21, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday May 22, 2014 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201405.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2115. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-10 02:19:44 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 233  Message: 2115

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our June Sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (June 10, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday June 11, 2014 0030-0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201406.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2014.0.4592 / Virus Database: 3955/7651 - Release Date: 06/09/14

# 2116. Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-27 15:35:16 UTC
From: RSLAUFER@...
Topic: 1130  Message: 2116

Does anyone know what the status of M0AGA and his Chevron keys are?

I have been coveting the Chevron Key for a while now, but I noticed the website is "down". I did some checking and I found that the domain registration was allowed to lapse. I emailed the guy that M0AGA had do the web site, and he wrote me that he emailed M0AGA about this more than six months ago but never heard back from him!

M0AGA's only email listing was at the now defunct chevronmorsekeys.co.uk http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html domain.

Anyone know what happened?

73,
Roy, AC2GS

# 2117. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-27 16:19:02 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 1130  Message: 2117

GA, Roy !

RE: "....Does anyone know what the status of M0AGA and his Chevron keys are?

I have been coveting the Chevron Key for a while now, but I noticed the website is "down". I did some checking and I found that the domain registration was allowed to lapse. I emailed the guy that M0AGA had do the web site, and he wrote me that he emailed M0AGA about this more than six months ago but never heard back from him!

M0AGA's only email listing was at the now defunct chevronmorsekeys.co.uk http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html domain.

Anyone know what happened?

73,
Roy, AC2GS"

If you are used to springs, then perhaps you won't mind. The Chevron uses magnetic repulsion. This means that if you press a lever with very slowly increasing force, you can move the lever away from its rest position, but not close the contact. The contact closes only when the force is increased further.

A graph relating lever force on the X-axis and contact-gap on the Y would be steep at first, and get less and less so.

With the attractive magnet arrangement found on, say, the Begali magnetic classic, the force required to move the lever decreases as the gap closes. This makes for a positive "clicky" feel, rather like the action of a microswitch.

With tiny gaps, the effect is small, anyhow. One needs great discernment to detect it.

My best key was my hideous home-made one, working on the attractive principle. It went missing with a parcel of other accessories when I moved house when my XYL died in 1990. Since then, I have an N2DAN (SK) at home and a Begali out here. I would buy no other, even if Bill Gates left me his fortune.

Is appearance everything ? As the old man said, when he saw his young son ogling at a lovely YL with his tongue hanging out, "...but, can she cook ? "

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2118. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-30 17:46:16 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1130  Message: 2118
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Mort,

the Chevron does not have attracting magnets. it has repulsive magnets. What you say does not apply to it.

161 Fred - KT5X

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 10:19 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

□

GA, Roy !

RE: "....Does anyone know what the status of M0AGA and his Chevron keys are?

I have been coveting the Chevron Key for a while now, but I noticed the website is "down". I did some checking and I found that the domain registration was allowed to lapse. I emailed the guy that M0AGA had do the web site, and he wrote me that he emailed M0AGA about this more than six months ago but never heard back from him!

M0AGA's only email listing was at the now defunct chevronmorsekeys.co.uk <http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html> http://www.chevronmorsekeys.co.uk/key.html domain.

Anyone know what happened?

73,
Roy, AC2GS"

If you are used to springs, then perhaps you won't mind. The Chevron uses magnetic repulsion. This means that if you press a lever with very slowly increasing force, you can move the lever away from its rest position, but not close the contact. The contact closes only when the force is increased further.

A graph relating lever force on the X-axis and contact-gap on the Y would be steep at first, and get less and less so.

With the attractive magnet arrangement found on, say, the Begali magnetic classic, the force required to move the lever decreases as the gap closes. This makes for a positive "clicky" feel, rather like the action of a microswitch.

With tiny gaps, the effect is small, anyhow. One needs great discernment to detect it.

My best key was my hideous home-made one, working on the attractive principle. It went missing with a parcel of other accessories when I moved house when my XYL died in 1990.

Since then, I have an N2DAN (SK) at home and a Begali out here. I would buy no other, even if Bill Gates left me his fortune.

Is appearance everything ? As the old man said, when he saw his young son ogling at a lovely YL with his tongue hanging out, "...but, can she cook ? "

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2119. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-30 18:23:34 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 1130  Message: 2119

Yes, Fred, it has repelling magnets, which I find repellent (pun intended, for emphasis).

They are just the same as springs; the spring-rate (force/deflexion law) increases with pressure, which is anathema to me. OK for them as likes it, i.e., the undiscerning.

My N2DAN, Begali Magnetic Classic, and my home-made monstrosity all used the attraction principle, wherein force decreases with deflexion.

Perhaps I worded my remarks in an obscure manner. I should have done better at school; especially typing school !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2120. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-06-30 19:37:03 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 1130  Message: 2120
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Yes, it has repelling magnets. I have two of them. It is the attracting magnets that lead to the "snap action." Though since the movement is generally set to where you can't sense the paddle arm moving all, there is no sensation. - fred

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2014 12:24 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fw: finest paddle ever made

□

Yes, Fred, it has repelling magnets, which I find repellent (pun intended, for emphasis).

They are just the same as springs; the spring-rate (force/deflexion law) increases with pressure, which is anathema to me. OK for them as likes it, i.e., the undiscerning.

My N2DAN, Begali Magnetic Classic, and my home-made monstrosity all used the attraction principle, wherein force decreases with deflexion.

Perhaps I worded my remarks in an obscure manner. I should have done better at school; especially typing school !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2121. Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 01:58:27 UTC
From: vk7cw@...
Topic: 2121  Message: 2121

Hi All,

Just a follow up from my last post where I was seeking a bug descratcher kit.

Chuck at Jackson Harbour Press just recently released version III of his bug descratcher kit. I think I might have been the first person to purchase it.

Well I built the kit and mounted it in a nice little aluminium project box.

I must say that it works like a charm and I no longer need a capacitor across the terminals of my vizbug.

It also works well on a couple of my cootie keys which were also very scratchy into my FT-1000.

So thanks to all who replied to my previous post and I finally have my scratchiness rectified.

I can highly recommend Chucks kit as an easy project that works great.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2122. Re: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 03:38:59 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2121  Message: 2122

I just sent Chuck an email asking for a Pay Pal invoice for shipping to me here as on the sight, it would not allow
shipping to Belize.

But, here is the URL for the kit.

http://www.wb9kzy.com/bugde3.htm

On 7/8/2014 7:58 PM, vk7cw@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi All,
>
>
> Just a follow up from my last post where I was seeking a bug
> descratcher kit.
>
>
> Chuck at Jackson Harbour Press just recently released version III of
> his bug descratcher kit. I think I might have been the first person to
> purchase it.
>
>
> Well I built the kit and mounted it in a nice little aluminium project
> box.
>
>
> I must say that it works like a charm and I no longer need a capacitor
> across the terminals of my vizbug.
>
>
> It also works well on a couple of my cootie keys which were also
> very scratchy into my FT-1000.
>
>
> So thanks to all who replied to my previous post and I finally have my
> scratchiness rectified.
>
>
> I can highly recommend Chucks kit as an easy project that works great.
>
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2123. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 10:32:56 UTC
From: vk7cw@...
Topic: 2121  Message: 2123

Hi Joe,

I also had to send Chuck an email but all went smoothly. Good luck with the kit and I am sure you will notice a big difference as I did.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2124. RE: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 13:26:46 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2121  Message: 2124
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Cootie key is scratchy??? I don't understand that.

All relay contacts have "bounce." You can see it on an oscilloscope.

Old bugs can have bounce made worse by pitted surface as the surfaces drag across one another. Polish the contact surface into convex mirrors. Old cathode keyed transmitters could not follow the extremely short duration of such a thing, but modern solid state rigs can and do. further more, the dit spring of the old bugs weakens in time, contributing to "split dits."

Solution can be very easy. First and perhaps most simply, stiffen the dit spring. Might replace the old dit spring with a modern one, or, if one wants to keep the antique spring, stiffen the spring by inserting something in the bend, shortening and thus stiffening it, a piece of foam or even just a bent piece of 3x5 card.

Another very simple solution is to put a large capacitor across the contact, sometimes need to experiment with how much is necessary to charge up and bridge the extremely short duration break that is causing the scratchiness. Point one farad may be enough, one farad almost certainly will be. Current capability can be quite small.

I put jacks on my bugs, and the capacitor inside the plug of the cable I use to connect the bug to the radio. In this way, one capacitor serves to de-bounce all my bugs, and it is never even seen.

73, Fred - KT5X

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 08, 2014 7:58 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Hi All,

Just a follow up from my last post where I was seeking a bug descratcher kit.

Chuck at Jackson Harbour Press just recently released version III of his bug descratcher kit. I think I might have been the first person to purchase it.

Well I built the kit and mounted it in a nice little aluminium project box.

I must say that it works like a charm and I no longer need a capacitor across the terminals of my vizbug.

It also works well on a couple of my cootie keys which were also very scratchy into my FT-1000.

So thanks to all who replied to my previous post and I finally have my scratchiness rectified.

I can highly recommend Chucks kit as an easy project that works great.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2125. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 15:49:16 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2121  Message: 2125

Hi, Steve.

I just paid and sent Chuck an email. I read Fred's email and as I sent
to him,
I can't imagine contact bounce with a cootie as it is like back to back
straight
keys and no spring to compress & bounce. I am also surprised with the
bounce with the VIZ keys as I know the contacts that Tom uses when he made
his keys. Scratchy sounding might come from 'dirt' on a contact or uneven
surfaces, but with a solid dah contact, it is rare. Puzzling.

I been busy trying to get caught up on all work, especially the key
work. I have
a sore on my lower right leg that is hampering me that defies treatment
by the
doctors here and in the US.

I was just laying out to cut some triangle plates for frame type bugs,
Lightning,
Zephyrs, etc. They are no longer available from Vibroplex, so I will
see if I can
make them reasonably priced.

Ha! I just looked and received a 'Click & Ship' message that my
de-scratcher
is on its way to me here in Belize.

I am back to work.

On 7/9/2014 4:32 AM, vk7cw@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi Joe,
>
>
> I also had to send Chuck an email but all went smoothly. Good luck
> with the kit and I am sure you will notice a big difference as I did.
>
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or

5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2126. Green-Base Vibrokeyer

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-09 21:47:07 UTC
From: ed.n3cw@...
Topic: 2126  Message: 2126

Hi Folks,
Does anyone remember the green base Vibrokeyer? Once in a while you will see one on the auction site. I had one a few years ago, and sold it. The serial numbers on the ones I have seen date this paddle to 1960. I have not been able to find any Vibroplex or Heathkit ads that offer this model for sale. I did find a reference that stated the green base was a special order.
Anyone remember how the green base Vibrokeyer was advertised? How did people become aware it could be special ordered?
--Ed--

# 2127. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 02:37:19 UTC
From: vk7cw@...
Topic: 2121  Message: 2127

Hi Fred and Joe,

I don't understand it either. I have cleaned all the contacts, I have tried capacitors across the terminals, and I have tried bits of foam behind the dit spring, all with limited success. Also a couple of my cooties had horrible scratchiness and it sounded like the contacts were dirty, however they weren't. I have a funny feeling it is my old FT-1000. I could not use my Kent straight key as a cootie as it just sounded horrible.

I am at a loss as to what the problem is. However I will say that the bug descratcher works, and works well in my particular situation. So for me that is a good thing.

I might add that the bug I am using is a brand new vizbug which by all accounts does not suffer from scratchiness but in my situation it did. With the bug descratcher in line I can use my vizbug and Kent straight key as a cootie with not one problem at all.

So if anyone else suffers the same problem (whatever that is) I can recommend the descratcher as a cheap solution.

Joe sorry to hear about the leg and hope you have a speedy recovery.

Good luck with the descratcher and please let me know how it goes for you.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2128. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 03:17:29 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2121  Message: 2128

HI FOLKS

GOOD GADGET IN THIS THREAD IT SEEMS.

I FOUND ANOTHER OPTION AND HAVE FOUR OF THEM NOW ON BUGS I USE. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE MCELROY BUG DOWN THE PAGE AT

WWW.QRZ.COM/W0EB

THIS ONE IS A SMALL ALUMINIUM BLOCK WITH A WIRE THAT PRE-TENSIONS THE DIT CONTACT. MY BUGS SURE SOUND CLEANER WITH IT AND WHEN THE CONTACT SEPARATES IT IS VERY CLEAN. JIM HAS SOME SCOPE IMAGES OF BUGS WITH AND WITHOUT THESE AND IT DOES WORK.

MINE ARE MADE OF BRASS AND I HAVE ONE ON A PRESENTATION, LES LOGAN 501, LIGHTNING BUG AND A VIZBUG.

ALL THAT SAID, THEY WORKED FOR ME BUT YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2129. RE: [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 03:23:32 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2121  Message: 2129

Steve,

I echo Fred's remarks, and I have no idea of what is happening to your keys, but I strongly suspect it happens after the key, and if you use different cords, after that, in other words in your transmitter. I've had distortion caused by antenna connection: flaky beginning of pulse caused by bad connection in coax plug which arced a bit milliseconds later then full power was reached. It was a nightmare to find.

I doubt that is your problem because you always sound loud 10,000 miles away here on the Northwest North Atlantic Ocean coast. Stronger than Radio Australia which is always loud at sunrise here.

Next contact, you will have to show me your cootie key sound.

Maybe we can get Lyn VK4EI / VK4SWE to wrestle her pretty fist around a sideswiper. I still have not managed to work her although she's heard me many times. Maybe next time she goes back to Malin Head, Ireland to visit family.

73

David N1EA
On Jul 9, 2014 9:27 AM, "'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Cootie key is scratchy??? I don't understand that.
>
>
>
> All relay contacts have "bounce." You can see it on an oscilloscope.
>
>
>
> Old bugs can have bounce made worse by pitted surface as the surfaces drag
> across one another. Polish the contact surface into convex mirrors. Old
> cathode keyed transmitters could not follow the extremely short duration of
> such a thing, but modern solid state rigs can and do. further more, the
> dit spring of the old bugs weakens in time, contributing to "split dits."
>
>
>
> Solution can be very easy. First and perhaps most simply, stiffen the dit
> spring. Might replace the old dit spring with a modern one, or, if one
> wants to keep the antique spring, stiffen the spring by inserting something

> in the bend, shortening and thus stiffening it, a piece of foam or even
> just a bent piece of 3x5 card.
>
>
>
> Another very simple solution is to put a large capacitor across the
> contact, sometimes need to experiment with how much is necessary to charge
> up and bridge the extremely short duration break that is causing the
> scratchiness. Point one farad may be enough, one farad almost certainly
> will be. Current capability can be quite small.
>
>
>
> I put jacks on my bugs, and the capacitor inside the plug of the cable I
> use to connect the bug to the radio. In this way, one capacitor serves to
> de-bounce all my bugs, and it is never even seen.
>
>
>
> 73, Fred - KT5X
>
>
>
> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> *Sent:* Tuesday, July 08, 2014 7:58 PM
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* [cw_bugs] Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up
>
>
>
>
>
> Hi All,
>
>
>
> Just a follow up from my last post where I was seeking a bug descratcher
> kit.
>
>
>
> Chuck at Jackson Harbour Press just recently released version III of his
> bug descratcher kit. I think I might have been the first person to purchase
> it.
>
>
>
> Well I built the kit and mounted it in a nice little aluminium project box.
>
>

>
> I must say that it works like a charm and I no longer need a capacitor
> across the terminals of my vizbug.
>
>
>
> It also works well on a couple of my cootie keys which were also
> very scratchy into my FT-1000.
>
>
>
> So thanks to all who replied to my previous post and I finally have my
> scratchiness rectified.
>
>
>
> I can highly recommend Chucks kit as an easy project that works great.
>
>
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW
>
>
>
>
>

# 2130. Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 06:21:19 UTC
From: vk7cw@...
Topic: 2121  Message: 2130

Hi David,

It doesn't do it with any of my paddles, only the cooties and the bug? Strange.

It also does it with the sidetone from the FT-1000 when I am not even transmitting?

It is something in the FT-1000, as I does not do it on any key when I use my back up rig FT-857.

I don't know what it is, but I do know that the descratcher has cured it, and that for me is a godsend.

If you have any ideas what it might be with the FT-1000 I would be happy to know.

Thanks for the nice comments on my signal. Will look forward to working u and showing u what happens.

73 de Steve VK7CW

# 2131. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 12:32:24 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2121  Message: 2131

It might be off-topic but tell us what you think makes your signal so big on 20m? Vertical beam? A horizontal beam on a bluff overlooking a steep drop to the Pacific? A remote site in the USA (just kidding).

You're S9 when the rest of the bunch is S2 and the other stronger signals are S7. You can really tell who has done their homework when you work 5,000 miles and further. People have no idea how big signals can actually be if they do their homework and invest time and money - but you only see it on signals out 5,000 miles and further.

73
DR

On Thu, Jul 10, 2014 at 2:21 AM, vk7cw@bigpond.com [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hi David,
>
>
> It doesn't do it with any of my paddles, only the cooties and the bug?
> Strange.
>
>
> It also does it with the sidetone from the FT-1000 when I am not even
> transmitting?
>
>
> It is something in the FT-1000, as I does not do it on any key when I use
> my back up rig FT-857.
>
>
> I don't know what it is, but I do know that the descratcher has cured it,
> and that for me is a godsend.
>
>
> If you have any ideas what it might be with the FT-1000 I would be happy
> to know.
>
>
> Thanks for the nice comments on my signal. Will look forward to working u
> and showing u what happens.
>
>
> 73 de Steve VK7CW

>
>
>
>

# 2132. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 13:00:15 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2121  Message: 2132
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Tensioning of the dit spring, putting a piece of foam in the curve, replacing with a stiffer dit spring, all serve the same purpose and seek to resolve the same problem.

VK7CW: ... your problem is something else ... I remember in the early Begali paddles before he began using gold contacts, the slight resistance in the contacts, and I am talking about a fraction of an ohm, was enough to confuse some solid state rigs. Try a very different vintage rig just to see, take the key to a friends house and try on his rig ... my guess is the kit you got from chuck fixes it, not because of the debouncing, but on the other side, it's keying side...

fd

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 9:17 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

HI FOLKS

GOOD GADGET IN THIS THREAD IT SEEMS.

I FOUND ANOTHER OPTION AND HAVE FOUR OF THEM NOW ON BUGS I USE. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE MCELROY BUG DOWN THE PAGE AT

WWW.QRZ.COM/W0EB <http://WWW.QRZ.COM/W0EB>

THIS ONE IS A SMALL ALUMINIUM BLOCK WITH A WIRE THAT PRE-TENSIONS THE DIT CONTACT. MY BUGS SURE SOUND CLEANER WITH IT AND WHEN THE CONTACT SEPARATES IT IS VERY CLEAN. JIM HAS SOME SCOPE IMAGES OF BUGS WITH AND WITHOUT THESE AND IT DOES WORK.

MINE ARE MADE OF BRASS AND I HAVE ONE ON A PRESENTATION, LES LOGAN 501, LIGHTNING BUG AND A VIZBUG.

ALL THAT SAID, THEY WORKED FOR ME BUT YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY.

73

BENNY K5KV

# 2133. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 18:54:17 UTC
From: Brian Carling
Topic: 2121  Message: 2133

I am getting more "dot bounce" with a Tentec OMNI7 than I have using my older OMNI VI. Odd

Best regards - Bry Carling

> On Jul 10, 2014, at 9:00 AM, "'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Tensioning of the dit spring, putting a piece of foam in the curve, replacing with a stiffer dit spring, all serve the same purpose and seek to resolve the same problem.
>
> VK7CW: ... your problem is something else ... I remember in the early Begali paddles before he began using gold contacts, the slight resistance in the contacts, and I am talking about a fraction of an ohm, was enough to confuse some solid state rigs. Try a very different vintage rig just to see, take the key to a friends house and try on his rig ... my guess is the kit you got from chuck fixes it, not because of the debouncing, but on the other side, it's keying side...
>
> fd
>
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 9:17 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up
>
>
> HI FOLKS
>
> GOOD GADGET IN THIS THREAD IT SEEMS.
>
> I FOUND ANOTHER OPTION AND HAVE FOUR OF THEM NOW ON BUGS I USE. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE MCELROY BUG DOWN THE PAGE AT
>
> WWW.QRZ.COM/W0EB
>
> THIS ONE IS A SMALL ALUMINIUM BLOCK WITH A WIRE THAT PRE-TENSIONS THE DIT CONTACT. MY BUGS SURE SOUND CLEANER WITH IT AND WHEN THE CONTACT SEPARATES IT IS VERY CLEAN. JIM HAS SOME SCOPE IMAGES OF BUGS WITH AND WITHOUT THESE AND IT DOES WORK.
>
> MINE ARE MADE OF BRASS AND I HAVE ONE ON A PRESENTATION, LES LOGAN 501, LIGHTNING BUG AND A VIZBUG.
>
> ALL THAT SAID, THEY WORKED FOR ME BUT YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY.
>

> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
>

# 2134. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 19:56:04 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2121  Message: 2134

What we are seeing, the newer rigs are showing any contact bounce as
they seem to follow contact irregularities more
closely then the older rigs.

On 7/10/2014 12:54 PM, Brian Carling bcarling@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> I am getting more "dot bounce" with a Tentec OMNI7 than I have using
> my older OMNI VI. Odd
>
> Best regards - Bry Carling
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2135. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 20:17:17 UTC
From: bcarling@...
Topic: 2121  Message: 2135

Do you think a capacitor across the contacts would help?

On 10 Jul 2014 at 13:56, Joe V31JP v31jp1957@... wrote:

> What we are seeing, the newer rigs are showing any contact bounce as
> they seem to follow contact irregularities more
> closely then the older rigs.
>
> On 7/10/2014 12:54 PM, Brian Carling bcarling@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> > I am getting more "dot bounce" with a Tentec OMNI7 than I have using
> > my older OMNI VI. Odd
> >
> > Best regards - Bry Carling
> >
> >
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
> PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> Facebook: Joe Pontek
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
> V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
> Posted by: Joe V31JP <v31jp1957@...>
> ------------------------------------
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo Groups Links

>
>
>

# 2136. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug Descratcher Kit - Follow up

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 21:39:59 UTC
From: Joe V31JP
Topic: 2121  Message: 2136

I have a 1 uF across my line. You have to experiment, but, usually,
between a 0.1 uF and a 1 uF works.

On 7/10/2014 2:17 PM, bcarling@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Do you think a capacitor across the contacts would help?
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299,
PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
V3FOC, I am SKCC 10691

# 2137. antique double lever

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-10 21:47:16 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2137  Message: 2137
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Relevant to this discussion of scratchy dits is the Vibroplex Double lever bug. Martin was having trouble with the dreaded split dit, and was not yet aware that the cause was a dit spring that wasn't stiff enough. The split dit was thought to have been caused by operator timing, and the double lever separated the dot and dash movement in an attempt to cure the problem.

Vibroplex made three variations of the double lever between 1908 and 1922. The earliest is known as the half frame, was only made in Norcross, GA, and there are only six specimens known in collections. Very few bugs were made in Norcross, as Martin's financial supporter suddenly lost his shirt on the options market, and the Norcross plant closed.

Only 27 specimens of any bugs with Norcross labels are known in collections, of those, seven are half-frame double levers. A statistical analysis of serials suggests that only about 600 bugs were ever made in Norcross of which perhaps about 150 were half-frame double levers.

It isn't likely that one would find one, and purchasing one from another collector would be for me prohibitively expensive, even if one could find a collector who would part with one. So i decided to "make" one.

I noted that all the parts on a half frame are essentially identical to those on the later and less rare full frame. I was able to obtain a badly damaged full frame, and instead of simply restoring it, I made it into a half-frame. Doing that only required making the half frame itself.

So here is a photo of effort...

73, Fred - KT5X

trustee for WS0TA and W5YA

# 2138. Code Practice Equipment AN/GGQ-1 and TL123 Clips

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-12 19:07:42 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2138  Message: 2138

I am looking the case that houses the Signal Corps Telegraph Practice Kit AN/GGQ-1. I also could use some of the TL123 clips.

I have a like new Oscillatone and several J-38 keys and it would be nice to put them all together in their box.

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h / 210.884.6926c/t

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2139. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-14 21:50:51 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 233  Message: 2139

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

Our July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 16, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday July 17, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201407.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7350+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2140. 2014 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-16 00:23:22 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2140  Message: 2140

Calling all QRPers!

The 2014 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is just a few short weeks away! Get into the great outdoors with your QRP gear and have a ton of fun!

All the rules and details can be found at: http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

And you can apply for a Skeeter Number by sending an e-mail to w2lj@...
Just send your name, your call, and the state you intend to operate from - it's as simple as that!

73 de Larry W2LJ
Skeeter #13

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2141. FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-26 01:04:30 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2141  Message: 2141
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello All,

I am downsizing my shack and keys. I have a nice Frattini Pro Deluxe Bug for sale. 1 photo attached. Purchased in June 2007 directly from Alberto Frattini, serial nr 016X. Photos and info available. $535 shipped to U.S. 48. Please email if interested to cameldriver777 at aol dot com.... Tks es 73 Pete W5PEH

# 2142. Re: FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-26 17:02:54 UTC
From: yv5en@...
Topic: 2141  Message: 2142

What a beautiful jewel. I didn't know it.
As I can see in this picture It's a twin independent lever bug right? (similar operation as the TW Olimpic).

GL es 73,
Edwin - YV5EN

# 2143. Re: FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 00:16:49 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2141  Message: 2143

The Frattini is Sold. Thanks for the contacts. Yes Edwin same operation. 73 Pete W5PEH

# 2144. SOLD FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 00:18:03 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2144  Message: 2144

The key has sold. Thanks to all.....73 Pete W5PEH

# 2145. Re: [cw_bugs] FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 01:06:29 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2141  Message: 2145

CONGRATS PETE

I AM THE ONE THAT TOLD JIM ABOUT IT.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Jul 25, 2014 at 8:04 PM, cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
> [Attachment(s) <#1477032b0c0ed16c_TopText> from cameldriver777@...
> [cw_bugs] included below]
>
>
> Hello All,
>
> I am downsizing my shack and keys. I have a nice Frattini Pro Deluxe Bug
> for sale. 1 photo attached. Purchased in June 2007 directly from Alberto
> Frattini, serial nr 016X. Photos and info available. $535 shipped to U.S.
> 48. Please email if interested to cameldriver777 at aol dot com.... Tks es
> 73 Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>

# 2146. Re: [cw_bugs] FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 01:10:32 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2141  Message: 2146

OOPS

On Sat, Jul 26, 2014 at 8:06 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> CONGRATS PETE
>
> I AM THE ONE THAT TOLD JIM ABOUT IT.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
> On Fri, Jul 25, 2014 at 8:04 PM, cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> [Attachment(s) <#147755adbf7f9168_1477032b0c0ed16c_TopText> from
>> cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs] included below]
>>
>>
>> Hello All,
>>
>> I am downsizing my shack and keys. I have a nice Frattini Pro Deluxe Bug
>> for sale. 1 photo attached. Purchased in June 2007 directly from Alberto
>> Frattini, serial nr 016X. Photos and info available. $535 shipped to U.S.
>> 48. Please email if interested to cameldriver777 at aol dot com.... Tks es
>> 73 Pete W5PEH
>>
>>
>>
>
>

# 2147. morse music

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 01:37:18 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2147  Message: 2147

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCjINQtOvbA

Raul was one of my students. He is not only a jazz musician, but a Morse enthusiast, KB5ZOT. In this presentation of the Who song, "I can see for miles," he sends Morse at the beginning of the song using a lip trumpet. Can you get it ???

- Fred kt5x (WS-zero-TA)

# 2148. Re: morse music

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 12:31:34 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2147  Message: 2148

MILES MILES

N4LQ

# 2149. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: morse music

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 12:57:29 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2147  Message: 2149
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

actually, "MILES ES MILES."

when i spoke to him after his concert here (in Santa Fe where he grew up) a few days, I was introduced to him as his former teacher, KT5X. He brightened and said, "did you copy the Morse in the last song," then immediately went into his voice trumpet, and sent it again! I said, "I certainly DID copy it, and I sent tongue code not nearly as eloquently, "TNX, Pal."

- fred

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2014 6:32 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: morse music

MILES MILES

N4LQ

# 2150. For Sale: Current production Vibroplex "Blue Racer"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 13:44:45 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2150  Message: 2150

I have for sale a current production Vibroplex Blue Racer bug. It was purchased last year at Dayton by it's previous owner who had trouble learning to use it because of the speed.

Check the Vibroplex.com website for current prices, but I'm offering this one here for $175.00 shipping included to anywhere in the U.S. Don't want to ship international because of possible duty & customs hassles.

Please email me off the group if interested and I'll send pictures on request (haven't figured how to add pix to the post here yet).

It's been used by me and is in 9 out of 10 condition (minor scratch on the label) which was on it when I got it.

Jim - W0EB

email -- w0eb (at) cox . net (email address format changed to foil spammers)

# 2151. Re: FOR SALE !! FRATTINI PRO DELUXE BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-07-27 16:00:19 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2141  Message: 2151

THANKS BENNY !!!
73
PETE W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S™ III, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2152. 2014 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-12 00:49:31 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2140  Message: 2152

On behalf of the New Jersey QRP Club, I'd like to thank all of you who participated in the 2014 Skeeter Hunt. A good time was had by all! We had a record 159 QRPers sign up for Skeeter numbers and so far 30 log summaries have been submitted. An event like this cannot be a success without your participation, and it seems like we're getting that and more - we're growing in size!

Don't fret about submitting your log as you still have time - but not forever! Log submissions are due when the clock strikes Midnight on Sunday, August 24th turning into Monday, Augyst 25th - that's two whole weeks after the event. You can send your summaries, soapbox comments and photos to w2lj@...

And if you didn't have a Skeeter number, but you joined in on the fun, send in your summary anyway. We've already received two submissions from Non-Skeeters and the highest scoring wingless one will also receive a certificate,

Thanks again!

73 de Larry W2LJ
Skeeter #13

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2153. NAQCC Sprint Announcement

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-12 02:05:03 UTC
From: NAQCC
Topic: 233  Message: 2153

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

Our August sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (August 12, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday August 13, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

I will refer you to the proper URL:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201408.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7350+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Dave VA3RJ
NAQCC #0004

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2154. Re: For Sale: Current production Vibroplex "Blue Racer"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-14 14:09:36 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2150  Message: 2154

The Blue Racer has been sold.

# 2155. Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-14 14:14:10 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2155  Message: 2155

I currently make "Dot Stabilizers" (a T.R. McElroy invention from the 1930's - see www.artifaxbooks.com/dotstabilizer.htm for history & theory) for the Vibroplex, Speed-X and McElroy keys having the round pendulum and bugs with the flat pendulum, such as the Vibroplex Lightning Bug, Champion and WW2 military J-36 bugs (including the Lionel models) which are based on the Lightning Bug design. I can customize them for other bugs such as the Japanese Hi Mound ("Coffin") bug, European made (metric sizes) bugs, etc. as long as you can supply me with the diameter (round) or thickness (flat) of the pendulum and a sharply focused digital photo of the actual bug you want it for. There is no extra charge for this customization as it stands right now.

They can be made out of either aluminum or brass. They mount to the arm with a socket head set screw and the proper Allen wrench is included along with a printed set of instructions explaining installation and proper adjustment. Also, they are made entirely by hand so there may be slight differences between each one (won't affect the operation at all). I recommend the aluminum ones as they are lighter and don't affect the top speed of the bug as much as the brass ones do.

The prices are $20 post paid for the aluminum and $25 for the brass ones to U.S. customers. I was charging $20 for either aluminum or brass, but I've run out of surplus brass and had to buy some at current new brass prices which are considerably higher than what I had to pay for the surplus stock. Internationally, they are $35 for Aluminum and $40 (U.S. Funds) for the brass ones. They will be sent "International First Class" mail.

If you decide to order one or more, I will need the make/model of the bug(s) you want stabilizers for, whether they are "left" or "right" handed (the bug, not you) and be sure to include your mailing address as well.
The preferred method of payment is Pay Pal and my PP address is: w0eb@cox.net mailto:w0eb@cox.net . For International customers I'll only accept payment by PayPal. I will take personal checks or USPS money orders from U.S. domestic customers, made out to Aubrey J. Sheldon, sent to my QRZ mailing address.

I'll be happy to answer any further questions you may have via email to the above email address. (I don't check the groups that frequently.)

Jim Sheldon - W0EB
2029 East Evanston Dr.
Park City, KS 67219-1618

# 2156. 2014 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Log Summaries

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-16 01:39:51 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2156  Message: 2156

So far, I have received Skeeter summaries from the following:

WD4EXI
N4EWT
W3ATB
WA1GWH
K4ARQ
NA3V
WD8RIF
WB8ENE
N0YET
N2JJF
KB1PBA
K1SWL
K4YND
KQ2RP
K0ALN
WA4PIG
K0RGI
VE3XT
K2ULR
N4KGL
WA8REI
AD4S
K4UPG
WI2W
N1LT
W1PID
K2WO
K2AL
WB3GCK
WH6LE
WD4MSM
NQ2W
K2TD
AB4QL
N1ABS
AI4SV
W3BBO
K3RLL
AB9CA
WV0H
K7TQ
W4MPS
WA0ITP

N0SS
KX0R

If you don't see your call there, I need to hear from you! Remember, log summaries are due NO LATER than 12:00 Midnight Saturday August 23/Sunday August 24. At that time, results are frozen and we will go with what has been received. Summaries follow this fictional example:

Larry - W2LJ - NJ
Skeeter #4 - All CW
Skeeter QSOs - 23
Non-Skeeter QSOs - 5
DX QSOs - (if any)
S/P/Cs - 18
Station Class Multiplier X4
"SKEETER" Bonus - 100 points (and here is where you would list the callsigns of the stations you worked that qualify you for the bonus points),

I'm trying to keep current with this and am composing the Sopabox now so I can post the results as quickly as I can after next weekend.

Thanks!

73 de Larry W2LJ
Skeeter #13

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2157. Last call for Skeeter Hunt Log Summaries

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-21 22:41:09 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2157  Message: 2157

Log summaries are due NO LATER than 12:00 Midnight Saturday August 23/Sunday August 24. This is the last call! At that time, results are frozen and I will go with what has been received. So please, if you have not e-mailed me your log summary, please do do before then!

Any questions, feel free to pop me an e-mail at w2lj@... or you can visit:

www.qsl.net/w2lj

for all the info.

Thanks!

73 de Larry W2LJ
Skeeter #13

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2158. Skeeter Hunt 2014 Final Scores

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-24 14:36:09 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2158  Message: 2158

Well, the deadline for log summaries for the 2014 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt has come and gone. The NJQRP Club offers a hearty and well deserved "Thank You!" to all who participated. Thanks also for your enthusiasm which helps keep this event going from year to year. We're growing by little bits, and with your help, we aim to make the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt a "must have / must do" outdoor QRP event for summers to come!

So without further ado - the top five finishers are:

1st Place -KX0R - George - 20,680 points
2nd Place - NA3QC - The North American QRP CW Club Team - 13,368 points
3rd Place - N3CU - Ken - 12,717 points
4th Place - N0SS - The Mid-MO Amateur Radio Club Team - 8,836 points
5th Place - WA0ITP - Terry - 6,232 points

Certificates of Acheivement will be received by these fine Skeeters, as well as by those who finished top for their state or province, as well as the top finishers in the SSB and Mixed categories. The top "Non-Skeeter" wil receive one as well.

To see the Scoreboard and the Sopabox comments, please see the links to those pages at http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

Thanks again and hope to catch you on the air for the NoGA Peanut Power Sprint this Spetember!

73 de Larry W2LJ
Skeeter #13

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2159. Key Parts Needed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-28 02:04:46 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2159  Message: 2159

Looking at my collection and list of keys needing help, I came up with the following:

1. Vibroplex Presentation bug (1956) - lower pivot screw with jewel

2. Vibroplex bug (19450 - upper pivot and thumb screw, wire thumbscrew

3. Vibroplex Original Standard bug (1919) - spring shaft broken

4. Vibroplex bug (1925) - shorting bar pieces

5. Vibroplex bug (1946) - dot contact spring

6. Brooklyn Metal Stamping bug - unusual dot assembly

7. British Admiralty spark key - knob, cover, wire screw

8. Boston Clap-Eastman - leaf spring, front spring, wire thumb screw

9. Dow-Key Deluxe bug - red plastic piece

Thanks in advance for your help and recommendations.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

210.657.1549h / 210.884.6926c/t

gharmon (at) idworld.net

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2160. Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-31 15:17:58 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2155  Message: 2160

I've now acquired a small, bench-top milling/drilling machine and have the Vibroplex round and flat pendulum dot stabilizers in stock rather than having to make them on an "as ordered" basis.

I'll still make the ones for the flat pendulum versions as ordered because there seem to be quite a few more of the round types being requested.

Anyone wanting to order one (or more) for their bug(s) please contact me via my email address rather than through the gruop as I don't check the group threads more than once or twice a week and I like to ship orders as close to immediately as possible.

Jim Sheldon - W0EB
w0eb (at) cox.net (of course, use the @ sign)

# 2161. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-08-31 20:49:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2155  Message: 2161

The dot stabilizer makes my dots as smooth as a baby's bottom with baby oil on it. Unfortunately at first I thought the Vibroplex round rod model was going to be unusable on my Presentation which is an excellent key but I can hear scratchy dots sometimes. Let me explain before I tell you that I give my complete endorsement and satisfaction with this device.

I did find I had to adjust the positioning and amount of tension on the spring, my first attempt just following the directions, gave me a spring that didn't have any power in it and wouldn't oscillate correctly. A few small adjustments, helped, and I made some more very tiny adjustments with the angle of the wire that restrains the U shaped dot contact spring, I finally had it so that it made many dots. You only need eight good dots on a bug, remember that. I could get maybe 30 dots before the dot stabilizer, and now with it, I get a good solid dozen (12) dots which is to be expected and is perfectly acceptable.

With a well behaved dot spring, my Presentation leaps into sending beautiful code, effortless at 40 wpm, clear, professional sounding code with beautifully formed dots. I was really amazed how well I was sending as I haven't sent for months. I credit the solid dots that I have to the quality of my sending. Solid error free sending, I was impressed - and I'm not usually impressed with my own work.

I am a very happy customer and I highly recommend both types!

73

David N1EA

On Sun, Aug 31, 2014 at 11:17 AM, w0eb@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I've now acquired a small, bench-top milling/drilling machine and have
> the Vibroplex round and flat pendulum dot stabilizers in stock rather than
> having to make them on an "as ordered" basis.
>
> I'll still make the ones for the flat pendulum versions as ordered because
> there seem to be quite a few more of the round types being requested.
>
> Anyone wanting to order one (or more) for their bug(s) please contact me
> via my email address rather than through the gruop as I don't check the
> group threads more than once or twice a week and I like to ship orders as
> close to immediately as possible.
>
> Jim Sheldon - W0EB

> w0eb (at) cox.net (of course, use the @ sign)
>
>
>

# 2162. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-09-11 14:22:56 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2155  Message: 2162

Thanks David,

Really appreciate your comments. Perhaps I need to clarify the adjustment instructions just a bit for the rest of the group.

The tension hook on my stabilizer needs to be set so the U shaped, springy dot contact is just barely moved toward the arm. Sometimes just having it touch the contact is enough to damp out the "run-on" vibration that is the major cause of "the scratchies". Remember too, that once you've installed and adjusted the stabilizer you still need to re-adjust the mechanical arm stops and the dot contact spacing to get the dot weighting right for a 1:3 dot-dash ratio. It's also a good idea to use a burnishing tool or at least a rough piece of paper to clean the contacts as well. That will ensure the best possible results.

Jim - W0EB

# 2163. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-09-11 15:29:54 UTC
From: Lee Young
Topic: 2155  Message: 2163

Jim, the Dot Stabilizer on my Vibroplex Original Deluxe has been working great! It required adjusting and readjusting to arrive at

a correct setting..

Thanks for going the extra effort and building me the “Left Handed Dot Stabilizer”

73,

Lee Young, K5LY
New Hope, TX 75071
ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451
CW Forever!

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2014 9:23 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Thanks David,

Really appreciate your comments. Perhaps I need to clarify the adjustment instructions just a bit for the rest of the group.

The tension hook on my stabilizer needs to be set so the U shaped, springy dot contact is just barely moved toward the arm. Sometimes just having it touch the contact is enough to damp out the "run-on" vibration that is the major cause of "the scratchies". Remember too, that once you've installed and adjusted the stabilizer you still need to re-adjust the mechanical arm stops and the dot contact spacing to get the dot weighting right for a 1:3 dot-dash ratio. It's also a good idea to use a burnishing tool or at least a rough piece of paper to clean the contacts as well. That will ensure the best possible results.

Jim - W0EB

# 2164. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Bug "Dot Stabilizer", AKA "scratchy" eliminator

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-09-11 16:42:49 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2155  Message: 2164

I agree with you 100%. I have found that you can get polishing sponge backed "sticks" used by cosmeticians to buff nails - not the rough stuff, but just the very, very fine polishing type. OK, if the contacted is ragged from high current you can even it out with a moderately rough nail board - don't use the wood backed ones - the foam ones are the ones with the least aggressive grit, much easier to obtain than a burnishing tool - and remember guys, the burnishing tools end up smooth and useless after a good burnishing of a pitted contact.

73
David N1EA

On Thu, Sep 11, 2014 at 10:22 AM, w0eb@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Thanks David,
>
> Really appreciate your comments. Perhaps I need to clarify the adjustment
> instructions just a bit for the rest of the group.
>
> The tension hook on my stabilizer needs to be set so the U shaped, springy
> dot contact is just barely moved toward the arm. Sometimes just having it
> touch the contact is enough to damp out the "run-on" vibration that is the
> major cause of "the scratchies". Remember too, that once you've installed
> and adjusted the stabilizer you still need to re-adjust the mechanical arm
> stops and the dot contact spacing to get the dot weighting right for a 1:3
> dot-dash ratio. It's also a good idea to use a burnishing tool or at least
> a rough piece of paper to clean the contacts as well. That will ensure the
> best possible results.
>
> Jim - W0EB
>
>
>

# 2165. Video - Bug QSO running Collins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-09-12 13:35:54 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2165  Message: 2165

Vibroplex Original Deluxe keying a Collins 32V2 and listening on a 75A4. Collins 32V2 - 75A4 QSO N4LQ and WB4DBO
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xs5-IUJJ5Y&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xs5-IUJJ5Y&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ

Collins 32V2 - 75A4 QSO N4LQ and WB4DBO
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xs5-IUJJ5Y&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ 50's dream rig. Still is.

View on www.youtube.com
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xs5-IUJJ5Y&list=UU8yv24rjknvixn1KIAcwzoQ
Preview by Yahoo

Steve N4LQ

# 2166. Re: [cw_bugs] Video - Bug QSO running Collins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-09-12 16:43:50 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2165  Message: 2166

VERY FB, Steve!
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2014 6:35 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Video - Bug QSO running Collins

Vibroplex Original Deluxe keying a Collins 32V2 and listening on a 75A4.
Collins 32V2 - 75A4 QSO N4LQ and WB4DBO
Collins 32V2 - 75A4 QSO N4LQ and WB4DBO
50's dream rig. Still is.
View on www.youtube.com Preview by Yahoo

Steve N4LQ

# 2167. Monthly Bug Dot Stabilizer infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-02 13:27:43 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2167  Message: 2167

Attention CW "Bug" users. Just a short reminder if you're experiencing "scratchy" dot problems due to contact bounce on your bug, I've resurrected Ted McElroy's mechanical "Dot Stabilizer" which, when installed and properly adjusted, helps eliminate around 90 percent of this problem. Doesn't wear out and gives more positive control than a piece of foam inserted in the movable contact. It can be easily installed (and removed if you sell the key and want to keep the stabilizer for another one). It works by placing a very small amount of tension on the moving dot contact to prevent bounce as the contacts separate which is the primary cause of the problem.

I make them for all the popular makes & models currently available and also can make them to fit almost any bug if you can provide me with a picture of the key and diameter or thickness of the pendulum arm.

Off list contact please to w0eb@cox.net for pricing or further information.

Jim - W0EB

# 2168. Re: Monthly Bug Dot Stabilizer infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-02 13:42:10 UTC
From: William Allen
Topic: 2167  Message: 2168

And it WORKS!
Bill, W0WCA

# 2169. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Monthly Bug Dot Stabilizer infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-02 14:13:01 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2167  Message: 2169

[Body unavailable in the source archive]

# 2170. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Monthly Bug Dot Stabilizer infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-02 14:41:51 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2167  Message: 2170

YES IT WORKS. THAT IS WHY I HAVE ONE ON EACH OF THE FOUR BUGS I USE.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Oct 2, 2014 at 8:42 AM, William Allen w0wcabill@...m [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> And it WORKS!
> Bill, W0WCA
>
>
>

# 2171. Re: [cw_bugs] Monthly Bug Dot Stabilizer infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-02 16:30:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2167  Message: 2171

They're very worthwhile and effective.

Highly recommended, the seller is a gentleman who loves to please his customers and he loves CW and is a darned good operator to boot.

73

David N1EA
Former commercial radiotelegrapher on land and at sea!
On Oct 2, 2014 9:27 AM, "w0eb@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Attention CW "Bug" users. Just a short reminder if you're experiencing
> "scratchy" dot problems due to contact bounce on your bug, I've resurrected
> Ted McElroy's mechanical "Dot Stabilizer" which, when installed and
> properly adjusted, helps eliminate around 90 percent of this problem.
> Doesn't wear out and gives more positive control than a piece of foam
> inserted in the movable contact. It can be easily installed (and removed if
> you sell the key and want to keep the stabilizer for another one). It
> works by placing a very small amount of tension on the moving dot contact
> to prevent bounce as the contacts separate which is the primary cause of
> the problem.
>
> I make them for all the popular makes & models currently available and
> also can make them to fit almost any bug if you can provide me with a
> picture of the key and diameter or thickness of the pendulum arm.
>
> Off list contact please to w0eb@... for pricing or further
> information.
>
> Jim - W0EB
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2172. Scratchy Dots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-03 15:34:29 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2172  Message: 2172

I've owned north of 20 different bugs over the past 9 years.
Perhaps its just luck but, I've never run into a scratchy dot problem that required a gadget to solve. I was a little surprised to see an endorsement for a scratchy dot repair device being endorsed by N1EA. Reason:...I've fixed all my scratchy dot problems based on HIS adjustment advice!
I believe, from the testimonials I've seen, that the Dot Stabilizer works.....but, is it necessary?
73, Milt
Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

# 2173. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy Dots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-03 15:56:56 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2172  Message: 2173

I think a lot depends on the rig you're keying. When I started, I keyed the cathode of a bottle with an o/c about 100 Volts, and about 30 or 40 mA with the key closed. A very quick tap on the key produced no output whatever from the rig, - not that there was a lot hard key-down !

My recent rigs seem to work within picoseconds of key closure, passing a microamp and an o/c about 4 to 7 Volts. At home I have a CMOS logic circuit to lengthen key-closures although I use an excellent McElroy key. Here, I have the dreadful Vibro, and it needed a home-brewed dot stabiliser, made of bent copper wire. Naturally, I use the 'best bent wire', beloved of telegraphists (if you don't know it, try it ! We also used 'beef essences' to get the feel of a different key.

The Devil surely finds work for idle hands to do...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2174. Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy Dots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-03 19:09:08 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2172  Message: 2174

I love my many Vibros and my one McElroy (my first bug). Sweet music emanates from all.....without scratch.
Milt

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@ntlworld.com ...
Date: Fri, Oct 3, 2014 11:57 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Scratchy Dots

□
I think a lot depends on the rig you're keying. When I started, I keyed the cathode of a bottle with an o/c about 100 Volts, and about 30 or 40 mA with the key closed. A very quick tap on the key produced no output whatever from the rig, - not that there was a lot hard key-down !

My recent rigs seem to work within picoseconds of key closure, passing a microamp and an o/c about 4 to 7 Volts. At home I have a CMOS logic circuit to lengthen key-closures although I use an excellent McElroy key. Here, I have the dreadful Vibro, and it needed a home-brewed dot stabiliser, made of bent copper wire. Naturally, I use the 'best bent wire', beloved of telegraphists (if you don't know it, try it ! We also used 'beef essences' to get the feel of a different key.

The Devil surely finds work for idle hands to do...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2175. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event coming soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-12 22:26:58 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2175  Message: 2175

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! November 15th, 2014
10:00 AM to 10:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1800 UTC through 0600 UTC

For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2176. Re: [cw_bugs] W6SFM Bug Roundup Event coming soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-12 23:35:59 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 2175  Message: 2176

Again, already? Wow ... well, maybe my bug & fist will behave a little
better this time.

73 Kate K6HTN

On Sun, Oct 12, 2014 at 3:26 PM, w6sfm@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP <http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html>
>
> The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW
> enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on
> the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are
> encouraged to make simple, conversational, "chewing-the-fat" QSOs using
> their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit
> your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks
> know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those
> contacts, and let'er fly! Let's hear that "Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing"
> or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.
>
> Reserve the day! November 15th, 2014
> 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
> 1800 UTC through 0600 UTC
>
> For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially
> increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of
> Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to
> hear you all on the air! 73,
>
> W6SFM
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2177. Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-20 17:36:10 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2177  Message: 2177

Anyone have an extra McElroy 1 ounce bug weight they might like to sell? I just got a McElroy TAC-510 model that is missing it's speed control weights. It takes 2 of the 1 ounce, .8" diameter/.3" thick weights with the 13/64" diameter hole. A friend sent me one, but to make it run right, I need one more.

Please email me to w0eb (@) cox.net (take the spaces and parentheses out please.) if you have one.

Thanks,

Jim Sheldon, W0EB

# 2178. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-21 00:14:20 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2177  Message: 2178

JIM

BACKUP PLAN. IF YOU CAN GET ONE CHROME PLATED, I BET TOM K4VIZ WOULD MAKE IT FOR YOU. MITE TAKE SOME HAND TWISTING BUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED LET ME KNOW. I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 12:36 PM, w0eb@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Anyone have an extra McElroy 1 ounce bug weight they might like to sell?
> I just got a McElroy TAC-510 model that is missing it's speed control
> weights. It takes 2 of the 1 ounce, .8" diameter/.3" thick weights with
> the 13/64" diameter hole. A friend sent me one, but to make it run right,
> I need one more.
>
> Please email me to w0eb (@) cox.net (take the spaces and parentheses out
> please.) if you have one.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Jim Sheldon, W0EB
>
>
>
>

# 2179. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-21 00:59:40 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2177  Message: 2179

Another source is at http://www.2bradioparts.com/page33.html
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 5:14 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

JIM

BACKUP PLAN. IF YOU CAN GET ONE CHROME PLATED, I BET TOM K4VIZ WOULD MAKE IT FOR YOU. MITE TAKE SOME HAND TWISTING BUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED LET ME KNOW. I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP.

73

BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 12:36 PM, w0eb@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Anyone have an extra McElroy 1 ounce bug weight they might like to sell? I just got a McElroy TAC-510 model that is missing it's speed control weights. It takes 2 of the 1 ounce, .8" diameter/.3" thick weights with the 13/64" diameter hole. A friend sent me one, but to make it run right, I need one more.

Please email me to w0eb (@) cox.net (take the spaces and parentheses out please.) if you have one.

Thanks,

Jim Sheldon, W0EB

# 2180. VIBROPLEX COLLECTORS GUIDE BY TOM FRENCH

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 04:02:03 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2180  Message: 2180

IF ANYONE HAS A COPY AVAILABLE FOR SALE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. IT IS A WHITE BOOK WITH RED TITLE ON COVER.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2181. Bug "Dot Stabilizer" infomercial

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 14:14:51 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2181  Message: 2181

Attention CW "Bug" users. Just a short reminder if you're experiencing "scratchy" dot problems due to contact bounce on your bug, I've resurrected Ted McElroy's mechanical "Dot Stabilizer" which, when installed and properly adjusted, helps eliminate around 90 percent of this problem. Doesn't wear out and gives more positive control than a piece of foam inserted in the movable contact. It can be easily installed (and removed if you sell the key and want to keep the stabilizer for another one). It works by placing a very small amount of tension on the moving dot contact to prevent bounce as the contacts separate which is the primary cause of the problem. Original theory of operation and some pictures of the original McElroy device and several of my prototypes at www.artifaxbooks.com/dotstabilizer.htm http://www.artifaxbooks.com/dotstabilizer.htm (pix of mine at the bottom of that page)

I make them for all the popular makes & models currently available and can custom make them to fit almost any bug if you can provide me with a picture of the key and diameter or thickness of the pendulum arm. Current items in inventory fit All Vibroplex models with the round pendulum, All McElroy models with the round pendulum All metric sized (such as the TW Olympic) and all models that use the flat pendulum arm to include metric sizes such as the Frattini Prestige Deluxe and all models of the military J-36 and current reproductions of it.

This may be the last offering as I'm considering stopping production of these for a while due to other commitments so if you really need one (or more), get your request in.

Off list contact please to w0eb@cox.net mailto:w0eb@cox.net for pricing or further information.

Jim - W0EB

# 2182. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 14:17:25 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2177  Message: 2182

Troy,
Thanks, but I'm looking for a real McElroy weight. I HAVE one of 2b's weights (came with the bug) and it's HUGE. I want to put this bug back as close to original as possible, hence the need for the McElroy weight.

Jim

# 2183. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 16:19:44 UTC
From: Troy,w6hv
Topic: 2177  Message: 2183

Yep, understand, Jim. My “Original Deluxe Mac Key serial number 1784” has all original parts. Friend of mine used it for years and it was sold to me (his widow) covered in pipe smoke tar! Ugh! Thought I would never get it clean. Now it’s truly a thing of beauty. Hope you find a weight.

73,
Troy

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 7:17 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Troy,
Thanks, but I'm looking for a real McElroy weight. I HAVE one of 2b's weights (came with the bug) and it's HUGE. I want to put this bug back as close to original as possible, hence the need for the McElroy weight.

Jim

# 2184. Re: VIBROPLEX COLLECTORS GUIDE BY TOM FRENCH

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 16:25:43 UTC
From: YV5EN - Edwin Rivera
Topic: 2180 Message: 2184

Did you try Morse Express Books ?

Morse Express Books
Standard page header for SSI
Ver en www.morsex.com Vista previa por Yahoo

They are ofering a CD-ROM, PDF format version for US$ 15.

73,

Edwin - YV5EN (YV5HUJ 1979-2011)

web: yv5en.org
Twitt: @YV5EN

# 2185. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 18:40:25 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2177  Message: 2185

I first went to Field Day in 1953 (our UK NED, the first week-end in June, CW only 10 W DC input), and was fascinated by GUNZE and his virtuoso use of the Mac key. I got a Vibrato, some years later when I got my ticket. Then I went electric, and lost the touch & timing - if I ever had it !

Then a few years back, realising that "you can't take it with you" I got a ruinously expensive 1938 Mac. Once repaired after postal damage, I could send with it (well, I thought so !). As different as chalk and cheese !

Keys are like musical instruments, golf club, pens, and other things we don't mention. Very personal, and there's no logic in things like that. For me, the Mac is so much better !

Gresham's Law seems to apply: "The bad drives out the good". Oh I'm rambling; it's the retsina. Almost as good as CW...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2186. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 19:11:54 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2177  Message: 2186

'GUNZE' was supposed to be 'GUNZE; Sorry about my deloprable tipyng !

It's the drink !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2187. Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 20:20:42 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2177  Message: 2187

A good "Bug Man" can make ANY bug sound good!
161, Milt

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@ntlworld.com ...
Date: Thu, Oct 23, 2014 2:40 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Wanted to buy, McElroy MAC Key 1 ounce weight

□
I first went to Field Day in 1953 (our UK NED, the first week-end in June, CW only 10 W DC input), and was fascinated by GUNZE and his virtuoso use of the Mac key. I got a Vibrato, some years later when I got my ticket. Then I went electric, and lost the touch & timing - if I ever had it !

Then a few years back, realising that "you can't take it with you" I got a ruinously expensive 1938 Mac. Once repaired after postal damage, I could send with it (well, I thought so !). As different as chalk and cheese !

Keys are like musical instruments, golf club, pens, and other things we don't mention. Very personal, and there's no logic in things like that. For me, the Mac is so much better !

Gresham's Law seems to apply: "The bad drives out the good". Oh I'm rambling; it's the retsina. Almost as good as CW...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2188. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: VIBROPLEX COLLECTORS GUIDE BY TOM FRENCH

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-23 21:04:17 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2180  Message: 2188

HI EDWIN AND CW_BUGS.

I TRIED THAT LAST NIGHT AND THE LINK TO PURCHASE IT FAILED. I WAS LUCKY TO
BUY A PRINTED COPY TODAY. MANY THANKS TO MIKE W3QT.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Oct 23, 2014 at 11:25 AM, YV5EN - Edwin Rivera yv5en@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Did you try Morse Express Books <http://www.morsex.com/books/#vcg> ?
>
>
> [image: image] <http://www.morsex.com/books/#vcg>
>
>
>
>
>
> Morse Express Books <http://www.morsex.com/books/#vcg>
> Standard page header for SSI
> Ver en www.morsex.com <http://www.morsex.com/books/#vcg>
> Vista previa por Yahoo
>
>
> They are ofering a CD-ROM, PDF format version for US$ 15.
>
> 73,
> Edwin - YV5EN (YV5HUJ 1979-2011)
> [image: http://www.qsl.net/yv5en/images/key-avatar.png] [image:
> http://www.qsl.net/yv5en/images/qrpdxcc.png]
> web: yv5en.org
> Twitt: @YV5EN <https://twitter.com/YV5EN>
>
>
>

# 2189. mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-30 17:57:05 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2189  Message: 2189

I have a 1952 champion that has been on the shelf for 57 years. It is too fast for me and additional weights
make it feel clunky to use. I am thinking about having the mainspring changed to make it usable for me. I plan on using feeler guages as the spring. Comments please.

Thanks
Silvergak

# 2190. Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-30 18:15:15 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2189  Message: 2190

That is what I use, 0.010" thick. The stainless does not work well, so
I use regular tempered feeler gauge material.
The 0.010" usually gives lower speed range. Another trick from the
1940s was to grind the main spring at it centre
from the top and bottom, sort of half moon notch. Check QST "Hints &
Kinks" December, 1941, I believe.

On 10/30/2014 11:57 AM, silvergak@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> I have a 1952 champion that has been on the shelf for 57 years. It is
> too fast for me and additional weights
> make it feel clunky to use. I am thinking about having the mainspring
> changed to make it usable for me. I plan on usingfeeler guages as the
> spring. Comments please.
>
> Thanks
> Silvergak

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2191. Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-30 18:16:36 UTC
From: Merv Schweigert
Topic: 2189  Message: 2191

I used to restore a lot of old bugs, and used feeler guages as the
mainspring on many, works just fine.
going to a thinner feeler guage makes most vibros into very nice
operating keys, I dont remember any more what thickness I used,
but with two weights they would slow down to straight key speeds.

GL 73 Merv K9FD/KH6
>
>
> I have a 1952 champion that has been on the shelf for 57 years. It is
> too fast for me and additional weights
> make it feel clunky to use. I am thinking about having the mainspring
> changed to make it usable for me. I plan on usingfeeler guages as the
> spring. Comments please.
>
> Thanks
> Silvergak
>
>
>

# 2192. Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-30 20:47:45 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2189  Message: 2192

How many dots are made in ten seconds with two normal small weights both all the way down at the farthest end from the operator?

David N1EA
On Oct 30, 2014 1:57 PM, "silvergak@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I have a 1952 champion that has been on the shelf for 57 years. It is too
> fast for me and additional weights
> make it feel clunky to use. I am thinking about having the mainspring
> changed to make it usable for me. I plan on using feeler guages as the
> spring. Comments please.
>
> Thanks
> Silvergak
>
>
>
>

# 2193. Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-31 03:33:36 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2189  Message: 2193

The Vibroplex Champion I have was a gift from the crew of the USS Nautilus SSN 571. I have thought about
modifying it for quite a long time. I want to use it because of what it is. It is a long story.

The main spring measures 0.020", 0.010 should do it. My 1943 Standard Radio spring is 0.015".
Spencer W1GAK

# 2194. Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-10-31 15:43:51 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2189  Message: 2194

Grinding a half moon on top and bottom of spring does work. Take it easy, and do it in small steps. Too much and the spring loses its "spryness". The upside is if you don't like the result there's always the feeler gauge option.
73, Milt k4oso

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: silvergak@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]
Date: Thu, Oct 30, 2014 11:33 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] mainspring

The Vibroplex Champion I have was a gift from the crew of the USS Nautilus SSN 571. I have thought about
modifying it for quite a long time. I want to use it because of what it is. It is a long story.

The main spring measures 0.020", 0.010 should do it. My 1943 Standard Radio spring is 0.015".
Spencer W1GAK

# 2196. Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 00:16:14 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2195  Message: 2196

I am not crazy about additional weights on my keyer. I made a vari-speed, works ok but feels
like riding a bicycle with loose handle bars.

# 2197. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 00:54:39 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2195  Message: 2197

If people really insist on slowing down a semi-automatic key short of designing a really L-O-N-G key, tubular extensions such as those made by Frank Geisler, W7IS who makes the Extend-A-Dot see ===> http://www.extendadot.info/ - a Morse Trombone will do it for you very nicely!

Extendadots are available in different diameters for various keys - McElroy, Speed-X take a larger size hole than Vibroplex, and Vibroplex comes in flat lever and round lever versions.

I'm not related to Frank, but I have several Extendadots that Frank gave me and they are excellent.and they slow down a semi-automatic the right way. I wasn't paid to say this and I'd tell you they were no good if they didn't work - or better yet, not comment at all, but they do work very well.

I do however recommend to all that you continue practicing on a straight key until you can send at the slowest speed of a bug - which is around 20 wpm.

For years the FCC and ITU considered 20 wpm "expert" speed on Morse. There was a reason why Navy and the Old Timers recommend learning a hand key well before progressing to a speed key, or bug.

If you're handicapped - do what ever you can to send well. But the normal pathway is straight key - semi-automatic key - fully automatic key - keyboard.

It gives you great coordination!

73
David N1EA

# 2198. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 02:13:44 UTC
From: w0wcabill@...
Topic: 2195  Message: 2198

Well, uh, Dave I really wasn't looking for a recommendation from you regarding how I should practice or with what or anything else for that matter. And yes I did pass the 20 wpm FCC test back in 1980. In the future I will refrain from posting anything here.
With malice and extreme prejudice,
Bill Allen, W0WCA

# 2199. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 03:29:37 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2195  Message: 2199

Bill,

My name is David, but I was answering Silvergak, not you. I have absolutely no idea why anyone would sign a message "with malice and extreme prejudice", but it does give a hint.

73

DR
On Nov 2, 2014 9:13 PM, "w0wcabill@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Well, uh, Dave I really wasn't looking for a recommendation from you
> regarding how I should practice or with what or anything else for that
> matter. And yes I did pass the 20 wpm FCC test back in 1980. In the
> future I will refrain from posting anything here.
>
> With malice and extreme prejudice,
>
> Bill Allen, W0WCA
>
>
>
>

# 2200. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 04:22:47 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2200

Something you might try is, widen the swing gap/distance for dots. Then, adjust the contact out for 50% again.
A lot of times, that lowers the bottom speed a bit and maybe use less weight. Loose handle bars, hey? Hi, Hi!

On 11/2/2014 6:16 PM, silvergak@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> I am not crazy about additional weights on my keyer. I made a
> vari-speed, works ok but feels
> like riding a bicycle with loose handle bars.
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2201. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 09:33:44 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2195  Message: 2201

GM !

As with riding a bicycle, handling gofl-clubs (which are like golf clubs, but typed badly) balance is important. I found with my first home-made bug nearly 60 years ago that weight alone, or very light springs alone, won't provide an ideal solution. For what my English opinion is worth, extra weight alone is not the way to go. It makes the response sluggish, and sluggish is not quite the same as slow.

If one wants to pursue the bicycle analogy, I think extra weights is like carrying a 200-lb pillion passenger on a racing bike. Using a sideswiper (is that a Cootie key, Jeeves ?) is like riding a rear-wheel-steered bike !

QAC de Mort SV5/G2JL.

# 2202. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 14:41:31 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 2195  Message: 2202

I used to confuse F & L a lot.

73 Kate K6HTN

On Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 1:33 AM, 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
>
> GM !
>
> As with riding a bicycle, handling gofl-clubs (which are like golf
> clubs, but typed badly) balance is important. I found with my first
> home-made bug nearly 60 years ago that weight alone, or very light springs
> alone, won't provide an ideal solution. For what my English opinion is
> worth, extra weight alone is not the way to go. It makes the response
> sluggish, and sluggish is not quite the same as slow.
>
> If one wants to pursue the bicycle analogy, I think extra weights is like
> carrying a 200-lb pillion passenger on a racing bike. Using a sideswiper
> (is that a Cootie key, Jeeves ?) is like riding a rear-wheel-steered
> bike !
>
> QAC de Mort SV5/G2JL.
>
>
>
>

# 2203. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 15:20:59 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2195  Message: 2203

Indeed, Ma'am !

My first lessons were in the Boy Scouts, where the standard method was to learn opposites, to make it 'easier'. F & L, G & W, and so on.

Easier shmeasier ! They should burn that Scouts' Manual for a telegraphist's Badge.

Nowadays, I confuse the *%@#^* lot !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2204. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 16:56:40 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2195  Message: 2204

Back when sleek bicycles were my "thing", I was told: "rather than paying hundreds of extra dollars to buy lighter and lighter bikes, why not shed some pounds from the rider?" While its not exactly the perfect solution, the same could also be said for taming a nimble bug....why not improve the skill of the "rider?" It worked for me, as now I can increase spacing to qrs quite effectively, without too many gadgets (except my Varyspeed) lying about.
73, Milt k4oso

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@ntlworld.com ...
Date: Mon, Nov 3, 2014 4:33 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

□
GM !

As with riding a bicycle, handling gofl-clubs (which are like golf clubs, but typed badly) balance is important. I found with my first home-made bug nearly 60 years ago that weight alone, or very light springs alone, won't provide an ideal solution. For what my English opinion is worth, extra weight alone is not the way to go. It makes the response sluggish, and sluggish is not quite the same as slow.

If one wants to pursue the bicycle analogy, I think extra weights is like carrying a 200-lb pillion passenger on a racing bike. Using a sideswiper (is that a Cootie key, Jeeves ?) is like riding a rear-wheel-steered bike !

QAC de Mort SV5/G2JL.

# 2205. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-03 19:13:27 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2195  Message: 2205

Milt,

When I first worked you on a bug I started to "spoon feed" you with exagerated spacing on my letters so you could copy them, then as you were doing so well, I tightened up on the spacing so you were eating solid food - no baby stuff.

Remember how angry you got at me? You chewed me out!

But I told you that you were receiving 35 wpm on a bug - which you told me was impossible for you to do, but you were indeed doing it.

I did that to increase your confidence because you were copying what I was sending albeiit with double spacing but you copied me solid, so I took out the extra spacing and you copied me fine - you were dazed a bit from all the speed but look at you now! It's second nature to you know!

You're now one of the best bug operators around - and you showed the talent when we had that QSO that I mentioned above, you just didn't know it.

But I saw the expert in there - you had great abilities, you're the Andrea Botticelli of bug sending.

73
DR

On Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 11:56 AM, k4oso@... k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Back when sleek bicycles were my "thing", I was told: "rather than paying
> hundreds of extra dollars to buy lighter and lighter bikes, why not shed
> some pounds from the rider?" While its not exactly the perfect solution,
> the same could also be said for taming a nimble bug....why not improve the
> skill of the "rider?" It worked for me, as now I can increase spacing to
> qrs quite effectively, without too many gadgets (except my Varyspeed) lying
> about.
>
> 73, Milt k4oso
>
>
>
> Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone
>
>
>

>
>
> ------ Original message------
>
> *From: *'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@... ...
>
> *Date: *Mon, Nov 3, 2014 4:33 AM
>
> *To: *cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
>
> *Subject:*Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug
>
>
>
>
> □
> GM !
>
> As with riding a bicycle, handling gofl-clubs (which are like golf clubs,
> but typed badly) balance is important. I found with my first home-made
> bug nearly 60 years ago that weight alone, or very light springs alone,
> won't provide an ideal solution. For what my English opinion is worth,
> extra weight alone is not the way to go. It makes the response sluggish,
> and sluggish is not quite the same as slow.
>
> If one wants to pursue the bicycle analogy, I think extra weights is like
> carrying a 200-lb pillion passenger on a racing bike. Using a sideswiper
> (is that a Cootie key, Jeeves ?) is like riding a rear-wheel-steered
> bike !
>
> QAC de Mort SV5/G2JL.
>
>
>
>
>

# 2206. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-04 00:01:15 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2195  Message: 2206

Hi David,
I suppose the ole "comfort zone" must have a gravitational pull twice that of earth. Thanks for pulling me, kicking and screaming, out of it!
You're an awesome Elmer.
73, 161, Milt k4oso

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_b...
Date: Mon, Nov 3, 2014 2:14 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

Milt,

When I first worked you on a bug I started to "spoon feed" you with exagerated spacing on my letters so you could copy them, then as you were doing so well, I tightened up on the spacing so you were eating solid food - no baby stuff.

Remember how angry you got at me? You chewed me out!

But I told you that you were receiving 35 wpm on a bug - which you told me was impossible for you to do, but you were indeed doing it.

I did that to increase your confidence because you were copying what I was sending albeiit with double spacing but you copied me solid, so I took out the extra spacing and you copied me fine - you were dazed a bit from all the speed but look at you now! It's second nature to you know!

You're now one of the best bug operators around - and you showed the talent when we had that QSO that I mentioned above, you just didn't know it.

But I saw the expert in there - you had great abilities, you're the Andrea Botticelli of bug sending.

73
DR

On Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 11:56 AM, k4oso@aol.com k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Back when sleek bicycles were my "thing", I was told: "rather than paying hundreds of extra dollars to buy lighter and lighter bikes, why not shed some pounds from the rider?" While its not exactly the perfect solution, the same could also be said for taming a nimble bug....why not improve the skill of the "rider?" It worked for me, as now I can increase spacing to qrs quite effectively, without too many gadgets (except my Varyspeed) lying about.

73, Milt k4oso

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------
From: 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@ntlworld.com ...
Date: Mon, Nov 3, 2014 4:33 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;
Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug

□
GM !

As with riding a bicycle, handling gofl-clubs (which are like golf clubs, but typed badly) balance is important. I found with my first home-made bug nearly 60 years ago that weight alone, or very light springs alone, won't provide an ideal solution. For what my English opinion is worth, extra weight alone is not the way to go. It makes the response sluggish, and sluggish is not quite the same as slow.

If one wants to pursue the bicycle analogy, I think extra weights is like carrying a 200-lb pillion passenger on a racing bike. Using a sideswiper (is that a Cootie key, Jeeves ?) is like riding a rear-wheel-steered bike !

QAC de Mort SV5/G2JL.

# 2207. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 04:32:34 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2195  Message: 2207

If I had a XE ticket I'd using it now!

Spencer

# 2208. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 04:54:10 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2195  Message: 2208

How difficult is it to obtain a license, how long does it take to be issued?

Good wishes with it.

David
N1EA
On Nov 4, 2014 11:32 PM, "silvergak@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> If I had a XE ticket I'd using it now!
>
> Spencer
>
>
>

# 2209. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 11:20:47 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2209

I had considered it when going for a Two Week Stay myself..until I read
some of the links below on the Radio Amateurs of Canada's website ! My
pitfall's were; No Office in the area I was going, and my 'Espanola is
only enough to vacation.. ie: Hola, gracias, cerveza !
Not sure after 30+yrs if I would want to Re-write my exam here..let
alone in Espanola !
Let us know how you make out if you do try ! 73
Jerry
VE6CPP

https://www.rac.ca/en/amateur-radio/regulatory/operating-outside-canada/xepermit.php

On 11/4/2014 9:54 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> How difficult is it to obtain a license, how long does it take to be
> issued?
>
> Good wishes with it.
>
> David
> N1EA
>
> On Nov 4, 2014 11:32 PM, "silvergak@...
> <mailto:silvergak@...> [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
>
>
> If I had a XE ticket I'd using it now!
>
> Spencer
>
>

# 2210. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 13:42:54 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2210

I take it, you're in Mexico, Spencer. Do you have a US or VE license?
I used to use
the reciprocal licensing when I drove from the Belize to the US or from
the US back
to here in Belize. The ARRL web site had the details.

On 11/4/2014 10:32 PM, silvergak@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> If I had a XE ticket I'd using it now!
>
> Spencer

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2211. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 13:49:15 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2211

Also.. my intentions were to 'Obtain an XE3 License' ..not to use my own call as XE3/ as well.. was a 'whole different scenario' ! I think our next 'sunburn excursion' will be 6Y, TI or even Florida again..Countries that have Reciprocal Agreements with VE..then to pack the gear in my luggage without her knowledge is another story ! ;o)
VE6CPP
On 11/5/2014 4:20 AM, Jerry wrote:
> I had considered it when going for a Two Week Stay myself..until I
> read some of the links below on the Radio Amateurs of Canada's website
> ! My pitfall's were; No Office in the area I was going, and my
> 'Espanola is only enough to vacation.. ie: Hola, gracias, cerveza !
> Not sure after 30+yrs if I would want to Re-write my exam here..let
> alone in Espanola !
> Let us know how you make out if you do try ! 73
> Jerry
> VE6CPP
>
> https://www.rac.ca/en/amateur-radio/regulatory/operating-outside-canada/xepermit.php
>
> On 11/4/2014 9:54 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>>
>> How difficult is it to obtain a license, how long does it take to be
>> issued?
>>
>> Good wishes with it.
>>
>> David
>> N1EA
>>
>> On Nov 4, 2014 11:32 PM, "silvergak@...
>> <mailto:silvergak@...> [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>>
>>
>>
>> If I had a XE ticket I'd using it now!
>>
>> Spencer
>>
>>
>

# 2212. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 21:43:08 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2195  Message: 2212

Are you saying that belize has an agreement with Mexico?
I have looked in operating in MX. Spend a lot of money here,
even more if I could easily do so. I stay
in the free zone but I would travel here if it wasn't so difficult.

# 2213. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 22:07:46 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2213

Not sure 'who XE has any agreements with'.. just TI, 6Y, USA, VE is okay
operating in ! The links attached to my previous e-mail had the XE Op'
Rules.. however in Espanola.. but I am sure they must have 'Reciprocal
Agreements' with some Countries..! Spain perhaps ? lol
VE6CPP
On 11/5/2014 2:43 PM, silvergak@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Are you saying that belize has an agreement with Mexico?
> I have looked in operating in MX. Spend a lot of money here,
> even more if I could easily do so. I stay
> in the free zone but I would travel here if it wasn't so difficult.
>
>

# 2214. Re: XE reciprocal licensing

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 22:45:30 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2214

Mexico has agreements with several countries. There is an application
process and fees to pay.
If you are in Mexico, once you apply and have your receipt for payment,
you could operate and
did not have to wait for the permit itself. Things change, so check.

The ARRL has a spot with reciprocal licensing on the web.

And, no, I cannot just go into Mexico and operate with my Belize license
or US.

On 11/5/2014 3:43 PM, silvergak@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Are you saying that belize has an agreement with Mexico?
> I have looked in operating in MX. Spend a lot of money here,
> even more if I could easily do so. I stay
> in the free zone but I would travel here if it wasn't so difficult.
>
> _

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2215. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 22:54:26 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2215

Between the US and VE is a unique agreement, but most countries, you
have to apply and pay for a license.
Some countries only allowed VP5/K8JP, but for a contest, they will issue
VP5JP for an example. But, just for
the contest. Here, you apply and they issue you a license for a year,
i.e. V31JP. I am due for my 18th renewal.
Some places will issue you a call if own property, otherwise XX7/K8JP.

On 11/5/2014 4:07 PM, Jerry jer.sieg@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Not sure 'who XE has any agreements with'.. just TI, 6Y, USA, VE is
> okay operating in ! The links attached to my previous e-mail had the
> XE Op' Rules.. however in Espanola.. but I am sure they must have
> 'Reciprocal Agreements' with some Countries..! Spain perhaps ? lol
> VE6CPP

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2216. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 23:07:09 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2216

Yes.. Interesting 'All the Different Rules, Reg's, Op Agreements, etc.
that are out there ! I guess 'Any Ham' wanting to take a Rig along..or
operate in a Foreign Country..(should check with the YL's/XYL's First !)
would be 'Well Advised' check out the proper and ever changing Info ! I
have heard a few US Op's in VE..signing W#/Mobile then their call.. !
No ! VE/US Op's sign the /M after their Call Sign.. Foreign
Op's..different ! We just correct them here..nothing worse ! ;o)
VE6CPP
On 11/5/2014 3:54 PM, Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@... [cw_bugs]
wrote:
>
> Between the US and VE is a unique agreement, but most countries, you
> have to apply and pay for a license.
> Some countries only allowed VP5/K8JP, but for a contest, they will
> issue VP5JP for an example. But, just for
> the contest. Here, you apply and they issue you a license for a year,
> i.e. V31JP. I am due for my 18th renewal.
> Some places will issue you a call if own property, otherwise XX7/K8JP.
>
> On 11/5/2014 4:07 PM, Jerry jer.sieg@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>> Not sure 'who XE has any agreements with'.. just TI, 6Y, USA, VE is
>> okay operating in ! The links attached to my previous e-mail had the
>> XE Op' Rules.. however in Espanola.. but I am sure they must have
>> 'Reciprocal Agreements' with some Countries..! Spain perhaps ? lol
>> VE6CPP
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> Facebook: Joe Pontek
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
>

# 2217. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 23:18:38 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2217

Yes, I have operated in Canada often, K8JP/VA2, K8JP/VE2and more often,
K8JP/VE3.
Almost everywhere else, it would be VP5/K8JP. But, the US & VE have had
the
agreement for what, 60 years?

I still have relatives in Saskatoon and my grandfather was Canadian.

On 11/5/2014 5:07 PM, Jerry jer.sieg@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Yes.. Interesting 'All the Different Rules, Reg's, Op Agreements, etc.
> that are out there ! I guess 'Any Ham' wanting to take a Rig
> along..or operate in a Foreign Country..(should check with the
> YL's/XYL's First !) would be 'Well Advised' check out the proper and
> ever changing Info ! I have heard a few US Op's in VE..signing
> W#/Mobile then their call.. ! No ! VE/US Op's sign the /M after
> their Call Sign.. Foreign Op's..different ! We just correct them
> here..nothing worse ! ;o)
> VE6CPP

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2218. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 23:30:05 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2218

Doug, VE5UF is a Good Ham Op Friend in Saskatoon !
VE6CPP
On 11/5/2014 4:18 PM, Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@... [cw_bugs]
wrote:
>
> Yes, I have operated in Canada often, K8JP/VA2, K8JP/VE2and more
> often, K8JP/VE3.
> Almost everywhere else, it would be VP5/K8JP. But, the US & VE have
> had the
> agreement for what, 60 years?
>
> I still have relatives in Saskatoon and my grandfather was Canadian.
>
> On 11/5/2014 5:07 PM, Jerry jer.sieg@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>> Yes.. Interesting 'All the Different Rules, Reg's, Op Agreements,
>> etc. that are out there ! I guess 'Any Ham' wanting to take a Rig
>> along..or operate in a Foreign Country..(should check with the
>> YL's/XYL's First !) would be 'Well Advised' check out the proper and
>> ever changing Info ! I have heard a few US Op's in VE..signing
>> W#/Mobile then their call.. ! No ! VE/US Op's sign the /M after
>> their Call Sign.. Foreign Op's..different ! We just correct them
>> here..nothing worse ! ;o)
>> VE6CPP
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize
> 011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.
> 903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
> 903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> Facebook: Joe Pontek
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
>

# 2219. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-05 23:42:44 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2195  Message: 2219

Boy, its been 7 years since I last worked Doug. Pass my regards, if you
would, Jerry.
I don't remember the family's last name up there, Pontek (Piontek),
Klusak and Berzinski
are possible.

On 11/5/2014 5:30 PM, Jerry jer.sieg@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Doug, VE5UF is a Good Ham Op Friend in Saskatoon !
> VE6CPP

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-434-9111 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2220. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: A Very Civilized Bug had

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-06 00:29:18 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2195  Message: 2220

On 11/5/2014 4:42 PM, Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@... [cw_bugs]
wrote:
> Boy, its been 7 years since I last worked Doug. Pass my regards, if
> you would, Jerry.
> I don't remember the family's last name up there, Pontek (Piontek),
> Klusak and Berzinski
> are possible.

# 2221. adjustable mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 03:21:42 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2221  Message: 2221

is there an image of the adjustable mainspring available?

# 2222. Re: [cw_bugs] adjustable mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 03:36:28 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2221  Message: 2222

Search for "La Hiff adjustable mainspring Vibroplex Presentation"

73

David N1EA
On Nov 8, 2014 10:21 PM, "silvergak@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> is there an image of the adjustable mainspring available?
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2223. Re: [cw_bugs] adjustable mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 04:06:14 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 2221  Message: 2223

If you can't find it, let me know & I will take a photo of mine.

73 Kate K6HTN

On Sat, Nov 8, 2014 at 7:36 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Search for "La Hiff adjustable mainspring Vibroplex Presentation"
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
> On Nov 8, 2014 10:21 PM, "silvergak@... [cw_bugs]" <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> is there an image of the adjustable mainspring available?
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2224. La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 04:14:51 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2224  Message: 2224

La Hiff Adj. Mainspring -- scroll down and magnify picture.
http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm

73

David

# 2225. Re: adjustable mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 13:26:55 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2221  Message: 2225
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring.

# 2226. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 16:01:23 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2224  Message: 2226

Very interesting - reading the verbiage about the Presentation model, I didn't realize there was a difference between the older ones and the more recent ones. Did the older Presentation models all have the La Hiff mainspring? What other differences were there? I always thought it was just the gold piece on top of the base.

73,
Mike W0VTT

On 08-Nov-14 22:14, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> La Hiff Adj. Mainspring -- scroll down and magnify picture.
> http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm
>
> 73
>
> David
>
>

# 2227. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 16:21:11 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2224  Message: 2227

The Presentation models have a LaHiff adjustable mainspring. The last Presentation was made about 1982.

Vibroplex only makes one model now, the Original.

The Original is available in different finishes, Standard, Deluxe, Presentation, gold top, Presentation all gold base, Bllue Racer Millenium, Blue base deluxe, and Blue Racer Millenium Deluxe choje base.

The current Presentation and Blue Racer models are Original models, gold top plate or base and small sized base respectively.

The old Blue Racer had miniature sized top parts, the old Presentation had the adjustable main spring.

David N1EA
On Nov 9, 2014 11:01 AM, "Mike Cizek W0VTT mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Very interesting - reading the verbiage about the Presentation model, I
> didn't realize there was a difference between the older ones and the more
> recent ones. Did the older Presentation models all have the La Hiff
> mainspring? What other differences were there? I always thought it was
> just the gold piece on top of the base.
>
> 73,
> Mike W0VTT
>
> On 08-Nov-14 22:14, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
>
>
> La Hiff Adj. Mainspring -- scroll down and magnify picture.
> http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm
>
> 73
>
> David
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2228. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 16:22:51 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2224  Message: 2228

"...Did the older Presentation models all have the La Hiff mainspring? ..."

Well, is mine Old within the scope of the question ? It is from 1955, and has the screwed, rather than the riveted, spring. With a home-brew bent copper wire dot stabiliser it is almost as good as the Mac at home !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2229. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 17:30:45 UTC
From: k4oso@...
Topic: 2224  Message: 2229

Its too bad that, over the years, Some of the Vibroplex bugs' distinguishing characteristics of were replaced by cosmetic, name-only features. Namely, the Presentation and Blue Racer. When those features were abandoned, those particular bugs actually ceased to exist (in manufacture).
73, Milt
PS: I have two Presentations with Lahiffs; a rightie and a leftie (see QRZ.Com) and 4 REAL Blue Racers.

-----Original Message-----
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT mgcizek@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sun, Nov 9, 2014 11:01 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Very interesting - reading the verbiage about the Presentation model, I didn't realize there was a difference between the older ones and the more recent ones. Did the older Presentation models all have the La Hiff mainspring? What other differences were there? I always thought it was just the gold piece on top of the base.

73,
Mike W0VTT

On 08-Nov-14 22:14, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:

La Hiff Adj. Mainspring -- scroll down and magnify picture.
http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm

73

David

# 2230. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 18:10:51 UTC
From: Lee Young
Topic: 2224  Message: 2230

Nice looking "Leftie" on your QRZ page Milt.

I am the proud owner of a 1948 Original Deluxe "Leftie"
Also own a 1965 Champion "Leftie"

73,

On Sun, 2014-11-09 at 12:30 -0500, k4oso@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Its too bad that, over the years, Some of the Vibroplex bugs'
> distinguishing characteristics of were replaced by cosmetic, name-only
> features. Namely, the Presentation and Blue Racer. When those
> features were abandoned, those particular bugs actually ceased to
> exist (in manufacture).
> 73, Milt
> PS: I have two Presentations with Lahiffs; a rightie and a leftie (see
> QRZ.Com) and 4 REAL Blue Racers.
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Mike Cizek W0VTT mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
> <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Sun, Nov 9, 2014 11:01 am
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring
>
>
> Very interesting - reading the verbiage about the Presentation model,
> I didn't realize there was a difference between the older ones and the
> more recent ones. Did the older Presentation models all have the La
> Hiff mainspring? What other differences were there? I always thought
> it was just the gold piece on top of the base.
>
> 73,
> Mike W0VTT
>
>
> On 08-Nov-14 22:14, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> >

> > La Hiff Adj. Mainspring -- scroll down and magnify picture.
> > http://www.morsemad.com/vib.htm
> > 73
> > David
> >
>
>
>
>

--
Lee Young, K5LY
ARRL Life member, CWops #1124, FISTS #15371, SKCC #7448, NAQCC #5451

CW Forever!

# 2231. Re: [cw_bugs] La Hiff Adjustable Mainspring

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-09 19:59:33 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2224  Message: 2231

Tom French who is a Vibroplex historian and key collector has a beautiful photo of a La-Hiff adjustable mainspring.

He dates the Presentation model as being produced from 1948 to 1979 when Vibroplex was bought by Peter Garsoe and moved to Portland, Maine. Peter discontinued the Presentation, sold available stock then discontinued the Champion and Lightning Bug models, some with tan paint on them, then discontinued the Lightning Bug model, leaving only Original models left, Vibroplex had discontinued the Blue Racer in 1967.

Photo of La Hiff adjustable main spring, concentrate on the machine screws, see the washers underneath, they hold down and secure the mainspring, you can see the slot in the lever for the mainspring. Loosening both screws allows the operator to make the mainspring longer or shorter, thus adjusting the action and speed range of the instrument.

73
DR

# 2232. CQ BR DE W6SFM this Saturday!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-12 02:55:55 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2232  Message: 2232

Just a friendly reminder that the W6SFM Bug Roundup event will be held this Saturday the 15th at 1800 UTC through 0600 UTC !

It's time to Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.
We're going to switch off that keyer and fill the ionosphere with home grown digital music, and have some Fun!
The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant.
In order to assist in spotting and potentially increase QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of the Bug Roundup home page found here:
http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

Be sure to visit our Home Page at www.w6sfm.com to learn more about the SFM ARC and how we're helping to support and preserve CW on the bands.

We hope that you will all join us for the event!
--

# 2233. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-11-16 23:00:26 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2233  Message: 2233

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

The November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November 19th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thurday November 20th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201411.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2234. TEST

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-08 05:20:48 UTC
From: k5jx@...
Topic: 2234  Message: 2234

Testing. Please disregard.

# 2235. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-08 23:19:23 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2235  Message: 2235

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

The Decmeber sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (December 9th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, December 10th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201411.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2236. Looking for Lightning Bug parts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-12 15:09:25 UTC
From: w0eb@...
Topic: 2236  Message: 2236

Anyone on the group have an old Vibroplex Lightning Bug or Champion vibrating arm assembly including the tension spring?

A friend of mine is trying to find a complete one to repair an existing lightning bug. The arm assembly is the same for both the LB and Champ.

Jim - W0EB

Please email me directly rather than on the list though as I don't check this list that often.

w0eb (at) cox.net

# 2237. NAQCC MiliiWat Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-16 00:47:02 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2237  Message: 2237

NAQCC Milliwatt Sprint Wednesday night!

The December MilliWatt sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (December 17th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, December 18th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://http://naqcc.info/sprint201412mw.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

This is a special event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRPp power levels (999 mW or less) to compete for prizes.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2238. EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-19 16:43:19 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2238  Message: 2238

HI FOLKS

I THOUGHT SOME MIGHT FIND A QRS METHOD I AM USING HELPFUL. IT IS A VIBROPLEX LIGHTNING BUT WITH A ROD STICKING UP ABOVE THE SQUARE WEIGHT. ON THE ROD ANY OF THE VIBROPLEX OR VIZKEY WEIGHTS CAN BE STACKED FOR A INSTANT QRS. SPEEDS AROUND 10 WPM ARE POSSIBLE WITH THE LARGE WEIGHT AND COMBINATION STACKS GO SLOWER. ANY VIBROPLEX LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION MODEL AND MOST J-36 VERSIONS CAN USE THIS METHOD. ANYTHING WITH A 1/8 INCH HOLE COULD BE DROPPED ON THE ROD.

ALSO THE LIGHTNING BUG SHOWN IS A STRANGE HYBRID STANDARD/DELUXE MODEL. SEE K5KV PAGE ON QRZ.COM FOR PHOTOS AND DETAILS. ANY INFO ON THE HYBRID FEATURE WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF AVAILABLE. http://www.qrz.com/db/K5KV

73 AND MERRY CHRISTMAS
BENNY K5KV

# 2239. Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-19 23:34:40 UTC
From: Eric Holmes
Topic: 2238  Message: 2239

Hey Benny, I am going to have to try this method.. As you know, i do not like to use a straight key, but i do like to do qrs on the upper portion of 40m  TNX. AC5CW ..

# 2240. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-20 03:29:15 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2238  Message: 2240

MAYBE I WILL CATCH YOU SOMEDAY ERIC. GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE STILL ACTIVE.
OLE WADE IS ALMOST QRT.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, 73
BENNY K5KV
STAR, TX

On Fri, Dec 19, 2014 at 5:34 PM, Eric Holmes holmeseric19@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hey Benny, I am going to have to try this method.. As you know, i do not
> like to use a straight key, but i do like to do qrs on the upper portion of
> 40m TNX. AC5CW ..
>
>
>

# 2241. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-20 04:01:27 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2238  Message: 2241

BO, not the President, but Benny,

Who is OLE WADE? You have to tell us a Wade story.

73

DR
On Dec 19, 2014 10:29 PM, "Benny Owens k5kvm5@...m [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> MAYBE I WILL CATCH YOU SOMEDAY ERIC. GLAD TO SEE YOU ARE STILL ACTIVE.
> OLE WADE IS ALMOST QRT.
>
> MERRY CHRISTMAS, 73
> BENNY K5KV
> STAR, TX
>
> On Fri, Dec 19, 2014 at 5:34 PM, Eric Holmes holmeseric19@...
> [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> Hey Benny, I am going to have to try this method.. As you know, i do not
>> like to use a straight key, but i do like to do qrs on the upper portion of
>> 40m TNX. AC5CW ..
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2242. Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-20 17:54:15 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2238  Message: 2242

Hey Eric, wondering where you been hiding. Hope to cu on the air sn....take care es 73
Pete W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2243. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-20 18:05:50 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2238  Message: 2243

Eric,

You can also restrain the vibrator on your bug by wrapping a rubber band around vibrator and damper, so it doesm't vibrate, readjust dot contact spacing so it will make contact when you press key with your thumb (dots when used as bug).

Now you have a sideswiper which you can restore in seconds back to being a bug.

73

David
N1EA
On Dec 19, 2014 6:37 PM, "Eric Holmes holmeseric19@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hey Benny, I am going to have to try this method.. As you know, i do not
> like to use a straight key, but i do like to do qrs on the upper portion of
> 40m TNX. AC5CW ..
>
>
>
>
>

# 2244. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: EASY QRS WITH LIGHTNING BUG, CHAMPION OR J-36 BUGS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2014-12-20 21:03:12 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2238  Message: 2244

David.. if my XYL (Non Ham) was looking over my shoulder when I read
your Reply there.. I am sure I would be a SK now..or accused of viewing
other Non Ham Related Websites anyway ! ;o)
That would not sound good to the 'Non Educated Amateur ' I imagine ! ;o) lol
73
Jerry
VE6CPP
On 12/20/2014 11:05 AM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Eric,
>
> You can also restrain the vibrator on your bug by wrapping a rubber
> band around vibrator and damper, so it doesm't vibrate, readjust dot
> contact spacing so it will make contact when you press key with your
> thumb (dots when used as bug).
>
> Now you have a sideswiper which you can restore in seconds back to
> being a bug.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
> On Dec 19, 2014 6:37 PM, "Eric Holmes holmeseric19@...
> <mailto:holmeseric19@...> [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
>
>
> Hey Benny, I am going to have to try this method.. As you know, i
> do not like to use a straight key, but i do like to do qrs on the
> upper portion of 40m TNX. AC5CW ..
>
>
>
>

# 2245. NOVICE RIG ROUNDUP

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-01-08 13:28:41 UTC
From: bcarling@...
Topic: 2245  Message: 2245

Novice Rig Roundup

Hi folks - Please consider participating in NOVICE RIG ROUNDUP next month, February 6 - 13th. Hundreds of stations will take to the airwaves for a week of NOVICE ERA fun using home brew and commercial rigs of up to 45 watts output (mostly tube rigs) and of course lots
of straight keys and bugs. There is a Facebook Group and also a web page you can read all the details there! Hope you will give it a try!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/624239621035186/

http://NoviceRigRoundup.com

Everyone is welcome to participate.

73 de AF4K, Bry
Brian Carling, Radio AF4K

# 2246. NAQCC 160 Meter Sprint Thursday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-01-15 01:30:19 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2246  Message: 2246

NAQCC 160 Meter Sprint Thursday night!

The January 160 Meter sprint is this coming Thursday evening local time (January 15th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Friday, January 16th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201501_160.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

This is a special event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate in this "Top Band" Sprint - 1805-1815 kHz.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2247. January RFTB Tomorrow Night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-01-17 18:33:05 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2247  Message: 2247

Tomorrow night is the January 2015 edition of the Run For The Bacon. That friendly lil' ol' QRP Sprint sponsored by your friends at the Flying Pigs QRP Amateur Radio Club International. Join us for a spell to have some fun and to say "Hi" to friends, old and new.

The time is the same as always:

East coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time
Rockies - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time
West coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time

The rules are at:

http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

73 de Larry W2LJ
FP# 612
QRP ARCI# 4488

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2248. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-01-21 04:17:55 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2248  Message: 2248

NAQCC Sprint Wednesday night!

The January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (January 21st, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, January 22nd, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201501.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2249. ANNOUNCEMENT

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-02-04 13:10:14 UTC
From: bcarling@...
Topic: 2249  Message: 2249

The Novice Rig Roundup starts in two days!

Starting Friday evening at 7 pm EST.

A whole week from 0000z on FEBRUARY 7 through 0000z February 14th.

Complete details here:

http://NoviceRigRoundup.com

Make SKEDS through the usual means at K3UK, Facebook NRR Group, Yahoo NRR Group etc.

73 de AF4K, Bry

# 2250. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday Night!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-02-08 16:34:27 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2250 Message: 2250

NAQCC Sprint Tuesday night!

The February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 10th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, February 11th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201502.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.
http://www.avast.com

# 2251. Is this OK?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-02-27 12:18:05 UTC
From: bcarling@...
Topic: 2251  Message: 2251

Is it acceptable to mention some bugs that I have for sale here?

73 / dit-dit

AF4K, Brian

# 2252. Re: [cw_bugs] Is this OK?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-02-27 15:02:21 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 2251  Message: 2252

I think that would be fine, as long as you don't over do it, and as long as the general list population don't blast me, the list owner.

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB
On Feb 27, 2015 5:18 AM, "bcarling@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Is it acceptable to mention some bugs that I have for sale here?
>
> 73 / dit-dit
>
> AF4K, Brian
>
>

# 2253. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-03-16 23:57:24 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2233  Message: 2253

The March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (March 18th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, March 19th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201503.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
http://www.avast.com

# 2254. Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 15:29:59 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2254  Message: 2254

Hi David,Hope you are doing well.I have an old Original whose lever sits way too low on the trunnion.  As a result, the bottom socket is adjusted way too high to compensate.I need to know the best (read:how not to screw things up) way to move the trunnion down some in its yoke on the lever.  Any suggestions?Tnx as 73, Milt k4oso
Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

# 2255. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 17:23:57 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2255

Basically, Milt, there are two methods of holding the trunion to/in the doe bar.
One is a tight press fot and the other is an over lapping offset screw. In both cases,
you adjust the dot bar up, or down, on the trunion. With the offset screw, you just
loosen the screw enough to move the trunion pin up or down. With the press fit,
grip the trunion in a vice with "No Mar" jaws. Use two pry bars to lift the dot bar
on each side to move it up. Do not use the dash bar hinge/yoke to move the trunion
pin. Just pry on the dot bar itself. I made my own pry bars from spike nails.

On 4/11/2015 9:29 AM, k4oso@... k4oso@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi David,
>
> Hope you are doing well.
>
> I have an old Original whose lever sits way too low on the trunnion.
> As a result, the bottom socket is adjusted way too high to compensate.
>
> I need to know the best (read:how not to screw things up) way to move
> the trunnion down some in its yoke on the lever. Any suggestions?
>
> Tnx as 73, Milt k4oso
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977,
PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,

Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2256. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 17:49:08 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2254  Message: 2256

I don't know if I might interject my 85 cents'-worth (That's just two, but allowing for inflation) but I had a similar problem. The spindle is a push-fit in the lever, so brute force works. One must support the lever on firm but soft metal blocks (brass or aluminium) and fashion a hollow punch to suit the spindle. The, careful hammer-blows to shift it, measuring at frequent stages. It worked for me, & got the lever to the right height. It has stayed for 20 years, at least. It must have had fantastic force to disturb it in the first place. Later models had a grub-screw.

The Mac I use at home has a grub-screw, & I've reassembled it so the upper bearing-screw is flush with the yoke, with the lock-nut below. It looks very neat - well, to me it does, but then I'm a Philistine !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2257. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 18:09:46 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2257

The older keys had a screw that fixed the lever, by loosening the screw the lever could be moved up or down.

Joe has a better method but I have taken the lever out of the key, placing the lever so that the shorter section of the trunnion pin goes between the jaws of a bench vise. I tighten the vise loosely so the lever will not fall over but the vice does not grasp the trunnion pin. I ten take a 1 by 3 piece of pine and hold it on top of the pin and hit the wooden board with a machinests hammer or carpenters hammer at first weakly then more strongly until the press fit starts to move.

I reassemble, having already set the bottom trunnion adjustment to middle of its range and see it the dot contacts and dash contacts can allign.

I am a hack, I never even took shop even though I loved clockworks and Morse keys.

73

David N1EA
On Apr 11, 2015 1:24 PM, "Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Basically, Milt, there are two methods of holding the trunion to/in the
> doe bar.
> One is a tight press fot and the other is an over lapping offset screw.
> In both cases,
> you adjust the dot bar up, or down, on the trunion. With the offset
> screw, you just
> loosen the screw enough to move the trunion pin up or down. With the
> press fit,
> grip the trunion in a vice with "No Mar" jaws. Use two pry bars to lift
> the dot bar
> on each side to move it up. Do not use the dash bar hinge/yoke to move the
> trunion
> pin. Just pry on the dot bar itself. I made my own pry bars from spike
> nails.
>
> On 4/11/2015 9:29 AM, k4oso@... k4oso@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi David,
>
> Hope you are doing well.
>

> I have an old Original whose lever sits way too low on the trunnion. As a
> result, the bottom socket is adjusted way too high to compensate.
>
> I need to know the best (read:how not to screw things up) way to move the
> trunnion down some in its yoke on the lever. Any suggestions?
>
> Tnx as 73, Milt k4oso
>
>
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474
> U.S.A.903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> Facebook: Joe Pontek
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>
>
>
>

# 2258. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 19:17:45 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2254  Message: 2258

Thanks guys!  Looks like I have everything I need.  Let's see now,.....where did I put that sledgehammer..☐73, Milt k4oso
Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------From: 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_b...Date: Sat, Apr 11, 2015 2:09 PMTo: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;Subject:Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting
  The older keys had a screw that fixed the lever, by loosening the screw the lever could be moved up or down.Joe has a better method but I have taken the lever out of the key, placing the lever so that the shorter section of the trunnion pin goes between the jaws of a bench vise.  I tighten the vise loosely so the lever will not fall over but the vice does not grasp the trunnion pin.  I ten take a 1 by 3 piece of pine and hold it on top of the pin and hit the wooden board with a machinests hammer or carpenters hammer at first weakly then more strongly until the press fit starts to move.I reassemble, having already set the bottom trunnion adjustment to middle of its range and see it the dot contacts and dash contacts can allign.I am a hack, I never even took shop even though I loved clockworks and Morse keys.73David N1EA
On Apr 11, 2015 1:24 PM, "Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Basically, Milt, there are two methods of holding the trunion to/in the doe bar.
One is a tight press fot and the other is an over lapping offset screw.  In both cases, you adjust the dot bar up, or down, on the trunion.  With the offset screw, you just loosen the screw enough to move the trunion pin up or down.  With the press fit, grip the trunion in a vice with "No Mar" jaws.  Use two pry bars to lift the dot bar on each side to move it up. Do not use the dash bar hinge/yoke to move the trunion pin.  Just pry on the dot bar itself.  I made my own pry bars from spike nails.

On 4/11/2015 9:29 AM, k4oso@aol.com k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs] wrote:
Hi David, Hope you are doing well. I have an old Original whose lever sits way too low on the trunnion.  As a result, the bottom socket is adjusted way too high to compensate. I need to know the best (read:how not to screw things up) way to move the trunnion down some in its yoke on the lever.  Any suggestions? Tnx as 73, Milt k4oso

-- Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney PontekP.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District(Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)or5204 Texas Highway 49 WOmaha, TX 75571-6474U.S.A.903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,Skype: v31joepalookaFacebook: Joe PontekI am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2259. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 20:11:42 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2259

Yes, both Dave's and Mort's G2JL, methods work fine, driving the arbour pins. Just be careful either way to not force the dash hinge/yoke.

I just looked at my Mac Keys and one appears to have a grub screw and the other one does not. I prefer the prying up on the dot bar as I believe it lessens the chance the chance of a sideways whack with the blunt object, if you knows what I mean. ☺ I have both brass and aluminium jaw plates for my vice to grasp the steel arbour pins with. I think I have one set drilled slightly undersized for the arbour pin to assist with vertical alignment.
In fact, I remember I do have to help with straightening bent arbours.

On 4/11/2015 12:09 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> The older keys had a screw that fixed the lever, by loosening the
> screw the lever could be moved up or down.
>
> Joe has a better method but I have taken the lever out of the key,
> placing the lever so that the shorter section of the trunnion pin goes
> between the jaws of a bench vise. I tighten the vise loosely so the
> lever will not fall over but the vice does not grasp the trunnion
> pin. I ten take a 1 by 3 piece of pine and hold it on top of the pin
> and hit the wooden board with a machinests hammer or carpenters hammer
> at first weakly then more strongly until the press fit starts to move.
>
> I reassemble, having already set the bottom trunnion adjustment to
> middle of its range and see it the dot contacts and dash contacts can
> allign.
>
> I am a hack, I never even took shop even though I loved clockworks and
> Morse keys.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or

5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2260. Re: [cw_bugs] Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-11 22:32:22 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2260

A dead blow hammer works well, also, Milt. Much less forgiving! ☺

On 4/11/2015 1:17 PM, k4oso@... k4oso@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Thanks guys! Looks like I have everything I need. Let's see
> now,.....where did I put that sledgehammer..☐
>
> 73, Milt k4oso
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977,
PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2261. NAQCC Sprint Tuesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-13 02:37:01 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2235  Message: 2261

The April sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (April 14th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, April 15th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201504.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
http://www.avast.com

# 2262. Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-13 03:19:13 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2254  Message: 2262

Milt, sent you an email with attachment..

73

Pete W5PEH

# 2263. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-13 13:53:07 UTC
From: k4oso@aol.com
Topic: 2254  Message: 2263

Thanks.  I'll have to view it on computer.  Too big a download for the smartfone.Milt
Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Smartphone

------ Original message------From: cameldriver777@aol.com [cw_bugs] Date: Sun, Apr 12, 2015 11:19 PMTo: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com;Subject:[cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting
  Milt, sent you an email with attachment..  73  Pete W5PEH

# 2264. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-13 19:36:12 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2264

PEH sent Milt the secret file that tells how to send as good as him on a bug.

Soon we will have a new friend: "Milt, the Man with the Golden Fist."

But Milt already sounds so beautiful on his bug, the Angels cry because they're jealous.

Can you imagine what will happen now?

He is going to play Carnegie Hall, to a sold out audience.

73

DR
On Apr 12, 2015 11:19 PM, "cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Milt, sent you an email with attachment..
>
>
> 73
>
>
> Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>

# 2265. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-14 04:47:49 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2254  Message: 2265

OK, I'll see if there's any Black Market tickets for Carnegie Hall !

But he can't be as good as I W A S 50 years ago (if I remember correctly; now, did I take my pills this morning ?)

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2266. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-14 10:46:13 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2266

You better buy a bootleg copy of the W5PEH Golden Fist video.

73

DR
On Apr 14, 2015 12:47 AM, "'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@... [cw_bugs]"
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> □
>
>
> OK, I'll see if there's any Black Market tickets for Carnegie Hall !
>
> But he can't be as good as I *W A S* 50 years ago (if I remember
> correctly; now, did I take my pills this morning ?)
>
> 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>
>
>
>

# 2267. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-14 11:31:32 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2254  Message: 2267

R = I'll look at E-Bay.

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2268. Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-14 16:57:24 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2254  Message: 2268

HI HI HI Mort....I think David got into your Pills.....ha

I hope that document helps Milt.... let me know what you think.

more later es 73

Pete W5PEH

# 2269. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 01:33:07 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2269

Notice how Pete did not send us a copy, Mort.

Top Secret, M5 stuff, I guess.

DR
On Apr 14, 2015 12:57 PM, "cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> HI HI HI Mort....I think David got into your Pills.....ha
>
> I hope that document helps Milt.... let me know what you think.
>
> more later es 73
>
> Pete W5PEH
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2270. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 01:41:26 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2270

And here, I though Pete & I were friends, also. Hmmmf!

On 4/14/2015 7:33 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Notice how Pete did not send us a copy, Mort.
>
> Top Secret, M5 stuff, I guess.
>
> DR
>
> On Apr 14, 2015 12:57 PM, "cameldriver777@...
> <mailto:cameldriver777@...> [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
>
>
> HI HI HI Mort....I think David got into your Pills.....ha
> I hope that document helps Milt.... let me know what you think.
> more later es 73
> Pete W5PEH
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977,
PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2271. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 01:46:49 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2271

Joe,

You're a has-been. Washed up. Yesterdays news. An empty bottle of
Coca-cola with only the smell of rum.

How sad!

Even worse, I am also!

DR
On Apr 14, 2015 9:41 PM, "Joseph L Pontek Sr v31jp1957@... [cw_bugs]"
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> And here, I though Pete & I were friends, also. Hmmmf!
>
> On 4/14/2015 7:33 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Notice how Pete did not send us a copy, Mort.
>
> Top Secret, M5 stuff, I guess.
>
> DR
> On Apr 14, 2015 12:57 PM, "cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs]" <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> HI HI HI Mort....I think David got into your Pills.....ha
>>
>> I hope that document helps Milt.... let me know what you think.
>>
>> more later es 73
>>
>> Pete W5PEH
>>
>>
>
> --
> Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
> P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
> (Hopkins Village) Belize011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
> or
> 5204 Texas Highway 49 W
> Omaha, TX 75571-6474

> U.S.A.903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
> Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
> Skype: v31joepalooka
> Facebook: Joe Pontek
> I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
>
>
>
>
>

# 2272. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 05:00:22 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2254  Message: 2272

I am not a has-been; I'm a never-was !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2273. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 08:29:41 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2254  Message: 2273

Indeed!

I can live without the pdf.

It has the Secret in it.

DR
On Apr 15, 2015 1:00 AM, "'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> □
>
>
> I am not a has-been; I'm a never-was !
>
> 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>
>
>
>

# 2274. Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 16:59:30 UTC
From: cameldriver777@...
Topic: 2254  Message: 2274

David/Mort/Joe. Check your email.

73

Pete W5PEH

# 2275. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 17:06:25 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2275

Got it, Pete. Exactly how I do it. I totally agree about Bill's
book(s). I am always learning from
his books or videos. Bill has been having some health issues according
to his wife. It has slowed
Bill down a bit.

On 4/15/2015 10:59 AM, cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> David/Mort/Joe. Check your email.
> 73
> Pete W5PEH
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977,
PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2276. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 18:55:16 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2254  Message: 2276

Greetings !

Anyone needing that much detail for such a common-sense job should consider taking up knitting or ballet-dancing ! Ham radio is not for him.

Anyhow, I did manage to read the article before the self-destruct started. The smoke set my allergy ticking, and I had to take a pill. This in turn needed washing down with copious retsina. Thank God I didn't work for the "Mission Impossible" team.

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2277. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Trunnion adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 19:18:32 UTC
From: Joseph L Pontek Sr
Topic: 2254  Message: 2277
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Here is a PDF version. I been napping and I guess because I can now! At the least,
the leg doesn't hurt now. I just hope it is healing up and will indicate so on Monday.
Going to run to town for a couple and might look into what I need to do to hang a
sky hook up here. I have to bag my wrapped up right leg for a shower.

I have not been sleeping hardly because of my leg. I went to the VA's "Acute Care",
emergency. I went through two pre-exams and then an ER doctor asked a lot of
questions and I told him everything I had done. After wearing those bandages the
travel day, the wounds looked BAD!

He prescribed Sulfamethoxazole 800/Trimethoprim 160 mg where I take two twice daily
for ten days. Then, they cleaned my leg, from my toes to near my knee like I do with
Salve. After it dried, The doctor wrapped from foot, near my toes to near my knee with
a flexible mesh (similar to Bactigras) that had with calamine lotion in it and like an Ace
Bandage. Then that was all wrapped with Ace bandage. It still hurt coming home from
Shreveport, at 5pm, I took my 2nd dose of antibiotic and the pain nearly disappeared
by 6pm. I fell asleep around 7pm and woke up to pee. At 4:45am, I woke up, made coffee,
and took my morning pills. I had a little pain, but by 5:30am, I was OK. Without the
pain, I can sleep! I have taken two naps today.

I go back next Monday at 2pm to have it unwrapped and re-exam it. I am still trying to
arrange an appointment with Dr. Kakani for my prescription renewals.

Back to chores.

On 4/15/2015 10:59 AM, cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> David/Mort/Joe. Check your email.
> 73
> Pete W5PEH

--
Regards, Joe, Ronnie (Rowena), Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My NEW cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977,
PG-19-15841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.

# 2278. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Coming May 16th

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-15 21:36:16 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2278  Message: 2278

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! Saturday May 16th, 2015
07:00 AM to 07:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1400 UTC through Sunday 1400 UTC

For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2279. adjusting

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-04-20 05:46:14 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2279  Message: 2279

Using a oscilloscpe connected to the key terminals makes adjusting much easier.
The adjustments are very sensitive.

Spencer W1GAK

# 2280. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event begins NEXT WEEKEND!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-05-10 07:29:06 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2280  Message: 2280

This is a general announcement to remind those interested that the W6SFM Samuel F Morse Amateur Radio Club will be holding its Semi Annual Bug Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html event NEXT SATURDAY!, May 16th starting from 1400 UTC though Sunday 1400 UTC. This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a time dedicated to celebrating our CW and Bug key heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs using a Bug style key as the sending instrument.
For more information including Rules and where to optionally send your logs, or other event related pictures and emails after the event, please visit our Bug Roundup web page located at: http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html Be sure to mark this event on your calendar, we hope to hear you on the air this coming Saturday! 73

W6SFM

# 2281. Unknown bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-05-15 08:59:35 UTC
From: mm1ewa@...
Topic: 2281  Message: 2281

Good day,

I've asked about this a couple of years back and got no clues, I cannot remember if it was on this specific group or elsewhere but here goes again.

About five years ago I came across a bug with a very unusual damper arrangement which I purchased, and then about two year after that I came across an identical key which I acquired also.

I've no idea as to the maker, and no real clues, going by the hardware I'd guess its a post WW2 era key.

The finish of the keys leads me to rule out homemade/handcrafted manufacture, they appear to be pretty uniform in finish and the over all finish between the two keys appears to be a finish consistent with serial manufacture.

I've not come across any pictures or info online of any others, but after coming across the second key so soon after the first I'm sure there must be others out there? perhaps with an owner who knows the history/background of their key better?

Someone somewhere put serious effort into coming up with that damper arrangement and I'd like to know why?

It has an adjustable screw on the damper which has a similar function to the damper adjustment on early Vibroplex keys, the damper as you can see in the photo is quite unusual.

https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/photos/photostream/lightbox/1717218059
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/photos/photostream/lightbox/1717218059

The rest of the hardware differs from any bug I've ever come across in both shape and dimension.

I'd appreciate any input anyone has on the background of these bugs, thanks.

Regards

Michael - MM1EWA/K0ALE

# 2282. Re: [cw_bugs] Unknown bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-05-15 12:50:28 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2281  Message: 2282

I bet it was a UK copy of Vibroplex. That damper could be machined, otherwise it would have to be cast which is too much work for making just a few. Investment castings used to make thousands are costly, a sand mold is cheaper but has to be done for each damper produced.

Look at RSGB advertisements from 1930s onward.

David
On May 15, 2015 4:59 AM, "mm1ewa@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Good day,
>
>
> I've asked about this a couple of years back and got no clues, I cannot
> remember if it was on this specific group or elsewhere but here goes again.
>
>
> About five years ago I came across a bug with a very unusual damper
> arrangement which I purchased, and then about two year after that I came
> across an identical key which I acquired also.
>
> I've no idea as to the maker, and no real clues, going by the hardware I'd
> guess its a post WW2 era key.
>
> The finish of the keys leads me to rule out homemade/handcrafted
> manufacture, they appear to be pretty uniform in finish and the over all
> finish between the two keys appears to be a finish consistent with serial
> manufacture.
>
>
> I've not come across any pictures or info online of any others, but after
> coming across the second key so soon after the first I'm sure there must be
> others out there? perhaps with an owner who knows the history/background of
> their key better?
>
>
> Someone somewhere put serious effort into coming up with that damper
> arrangement and I'd like to know why?
>
> It has an adjustable screw on the damper which has a similar function to
> the damper adjustment on early Vibroplex keys, the damper as you can see in
> the photo is quite unusual.
>

>
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/photos/photostream/lightbox/1717218059
>
>
> The rest of the hardware differs from any bug I've ever come across in
> both shape and dimension.
>
>
> I'd appreciate any input anyone has on the background of these bugs,
> thanks.
>
>
> Regards
>
>
> Michael - MM1EWA/K0ALE
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2283. RFTB Sunday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-05-16 22:06:16 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 959  Message: 2283

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
http://www.avast.com

# 2284. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-05-19 00:10:53 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2233  Message: 2284

The May sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (May 20th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, May 21st, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201505.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
http://www.avast.com

# 2285. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-08 02:13:38 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2233  Message: 2285

The June sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (June 9th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, June 10th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201506.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2286. NAQCC Sprint TUESDAY Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-08 02:16:41 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2286  Message: 2286

The June sprint is this coming Tuesday (NOT Wednesday!) evening local time (June 9th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, June 10th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201506.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2287. My Newest Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-14 23:00:51 UTC
From: cfzepp@...
Topic: 2287  Message: 2287

I just posted a picture of my latest bug build.

It has a 2.5" wide base and is 6" long, making it very near the same overall size as the older Blue Racers.

It's mainframe is a slightly different design than my previous built bugs.

It's works extremely well and has nice crisp action....

Enjoy, Donnie / WA9TGT

# 2288. Re: [cw_bugs] My Newest Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-15 00:18:59 UTC
From: George
Topic: 2287  Message: 2288

Nice work!!!
73, George
W2GS

On 6/14/2015 6:00 PM, cfzepp@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> I just posted a picture of my latest bug build.
>
>
> It has a 2.5" wide base and is 6" long, making it very near the same
> overall size as the older Blue Racers.
>
>
> It's mainframe is a slightly different design than my previous built bugs.
>
>
> It's works extremely well and has nice crisp action....
>
>
> Enjoy, Donnie / WA9TGT
>
>

# 2289. Re: My Newest Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-15 13:03:49 UTC
From: Tom Warren
Topic: 2287  Message: 2289

Donnie,

Real nice looking work.

73
Tom
W4TMW

# 2290. NAQCC Milliwatt Sprint Wednesday night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-17 01:12:40 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2290  Message: 2290

Tomorrow night, June 17th is the NAQCC June milliwatt sprint. It will be held from 8:30-10:30PM EDT, 7:30-9:30PM CDT , 6:30-8:30PM MDT, 5:30-7:30PM PDT, which translates as Thursday, June 18th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201506mw.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information. The details differ a bit from our regular monthly sprints, so check them out beforehand.
See you on the bands with QRPp!
73 de Larry W2LJ on behalf of the NAQCC

# 2291. Skeeter numbers issued starting Sunday

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-18 02:35:43 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2291  Message: 2291

To all QRPers!
The 4th Annual NJQRP Skeeter Hunt will be held on Sunday, August 9th. In keeping with tradition, Skeeter numbers will begin to be issued on the First Day of Summer, which is this coming Sunday, June 21st.
You don't have to wait until Sunday to send in your request! Just send an e-mail to w2lj@..., to request a number, along with your name, call and the state you will be operating from. Whenever you make your request, from now until August 8th, you'll receive a confirming e-mail, along with your Skeeter number.
All the details for this soon-to-be Summer classic, can be found at www.qsl.net/w2lj
There are a few minor rule changes this year and they are detailed at the Website. And remember, the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is an SSB friendly event - there is a SSB category and even a mixed category for those who would like to give their microphones a workout.
Hope to see your e-mail in my inbox!
72 de Larry W2LJ - NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2292. NOVICE ACTIVITY WEEKEND!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-19 11:02:14 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2292  Message: 2292

Please look for the NOVICE RIG ACTIVITY event this weekend from Friday evening until Sunday evening.

Make contacts on the 40m Novice Band only.

Starting at 0000 UTC this Saturday until 0000 UTC Monday.

DETAILS:

This has ALSO been posted on the Novice Rig Roundup web page...

ANNOUNCEMENT NOVICE RIG ACTIVITY WEEKENDS!!!

THIRD FULL WEEKEND OF JUNE 19 - 21 from 0000 UTC SATURDAY until 2400 UTC SUNDAY.

First weekend will be JUNE 20 - 21. Remember the start times will be on Friday evening and end times will be on Sunday evening.

RULES ARE - CONCENTRATE ON 7100 - 7125 kHz but use any novice appropriate frequency.

This is not a full on contest BUT you may post your results and compare how you did against the results of other ops. No prizes or certificates for now. Just the satisfaction of your achievement.

EXCHANGE: RST, QTH (State, province or country), NAME, POWER, Year First Licensed (2 digits)
EXAMPLE: RST 599 FL BRY 55W 68

You may also wish to exchange numbers for NAQCC, SKCC etc.
Use of older novice era 1940s, 50s, 60s and 70s equipment is strongly encouraged. Use of homebrew and QRP are also stringly encouraged. Use of MANUAL CW keys including bugs, side swipers, cooties, straight keys etc. is encouraged.

Since SKCC Board are NOT interested in promoting this manual CW event, this is NOT an official SKCC event.

Final scores my be submitted for posting on the web site by e-mailing them via the web site.
Details to follow.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY for maximum participation!!!!

See: http://NoviceRigRoundup.com

73 - AF4K

# 2293. Re: NOVICE ACTIVITY WEEKEND!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-06-19 14:02:49 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2292  Message: 2293

BRY

WHEN I SAW THIS NOTICE I CANCELLED MY DRAKE 2NT/2C ON EBAY. WILL UNPACK AND HAVE IT ON THE 7110 KHZ XTAL IF IT IS CLEAR. OTHER XTAL FREQS ARE:

80M - 3530, 3532, 3535, 3540, 3545.5 3546, 3550, 3555, 40M - 7008, 7018, 7025, 7030, 7032, 7037, 7042, 7044, 7051, 7054, 7110

I WILL USE THE HIGHEST CLEAR FREQ AVAILABLE.

I HOPE THERE WILL BE MORE NOVICE RIG WEEKENDS.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2294. WTB original weight for BK-50 or BK-100 "coffin bug"

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-10 22:22:37 UTC
From: n4ees@...
Topic: 2294  Message: 2294

If anyone has a spare weight for a Japanese Swallow or "coffin" bug please e-mail me at n4ees7373@gmail.com thanks et vy 73,

Jim
N4EES

# 2295. NAQCC Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-11 11:48:00 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2233  Message: 2295

The July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 15th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, July 16th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201507.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2296. Fully automatic RotoBug video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-12 01:52:44 UTC
From: wb9lpu@...
Topic: 2296  Message: 2296

Hi, All –

A YouTube video of the WB9LPU Auto RotoBug has finally been finished and posted as a public file at

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=XrjEbx7Uv5w https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrjEbx7Uv5w

At this stage of its development, the AutoRoto is a quite workable key, as the video will demonstrate.

Further refinements are planned, as is a version of the mechanism that will have much more resemblance

to a conventional bug.

I will upload a PDF file briefly describing the key to the Files section.

Vy 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 2297. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-12 01:56:19 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 1538  Message: 2297

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /AutoRoto Brief-3.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : This is a working prototype of a fully-automatic (for both dots and dashes) rotary telegraph key. It has clarified several design approaches and will be developed into more refined versions.

You can access this file at the URL:
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/files/AutoRoto%20Brief-3.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
https://help.yahoo.com/kb/index?page=content&y=PROD_GRPS&locale=en_US&id=SLN15398

Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>

# 2298. hand made key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-12 15:33:52 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2298  Message: 2298

http://www.wb9jps.com/Gary_Johnson/Cocbolo_Morse_Key.html

# 2299. Re: [cw_bugs] Fully automatic RotoBug video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-12 20:33:50 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2296  Message: 2299

Rich,

Again, an absolutely beautiful work of art!

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2015 6:52 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Fully automatic RotoBug video

Hi, All –

A YouTube video of the WB9LPU Auto RotoBug has finally been finished and posted as a public file at

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=XrjEbx7Uv5w

At this stage of its development, the AutoRoto is a quite workable key, as the video will demonstrate.

Further refinements are planned, as is a version of the mechanism that will have much more resemblance

to a conventional bug.

I will upload a PDF file briefly describing the key to the Files section.

Vy 73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 2300. Re: hand made key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-13 15:34:53 UTC
From: Bill Smith
Topic: 2298  Message: 2300

Gary, as a ham and a woodworker, I love your straight key. Beautiful work. I hope you post the photos at some woodworking sites such as lunberjocks.com.

Read your ham history and we started about the same time. I also had a HW-16. Still have it and BOTH crystals I used. Need to get it out and fire it up.

Bill
WB5PMZ

# 2301. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: hand made key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-14 22:04:59 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2298  Message: 2301

I will send this to Gary, he probably does not subscribe here.

73
DR
N1EA

On Mon, Jul 13, 2015 at 11:34 AM, Bill Smith wb5pmz@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Gary, as a ham and a woodworker, I love your straight key. Beautiful
> work. I hope you post the photos at some woodworking sites such as
> lunberjocks.com.
>
> Read your ham history and we started about the same time. I also had a
> HW-16. Still have it and BOTH crystals I used. Need to get it out and
> fire it up.
>
> Bill
> WB5PMZ
>
>
>
>

# 2302. Re: hand made key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-14 23:42:48 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2298  Message: 2302

Yep, I'm here... I just don't check the list every day.

Thanks for the compliment on the key. Now that I'm gaining some skill with my bug (63 deluxe original) maybe I'll try scratch building one. I see some other group members here have done beautiful bugs; hopefully I can bother you for some tips like how to choose/acquire materials for the flexure and dot springs.

Fred: we met a couple years ago. I was WB9JPS then and came to Santa Fe to visit K1JD. You guys invited me to lunch, a very FB club I must say. And you got me chasing SOTA now too!

Glad to be a member of this group, where the real telegraphers hang out.

73,
Gary, NA6O

# 2303. Re: Fully automatic RotoBug video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-14 23:55:06 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2296  Message: 2303

Rich, that is simply amazing. How long has it been in development?

Reminds me of something from the Clever Mechanisms books, or those grand old patents from a century or more ago.

Gary, NA6O

# 2304. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Fully automatic RotoBug video

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-19 00:43:45 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2296  Message: 2304

Hi, Gary -

Well, it started appearing in my notebooks about November 2014, and I finished building it at the end of April 2015. This took a bit longer than some other designs, because the lever pivots and mechanical linkages were new designs with this instrument. The next key will combine the mechanics of the Balanced Bug with the linkages of this one, to produce (I hope) a bug with a wider speed range and a lighter touch and a more conventional look..

I have a number of those Ingenious Mechanisms books, and some of the mechanisms are amazing. I should refer to them more often while I am designing, but some of the mechanisms are so clever it makes me feel like a dummy!

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

On Tue, Jul 14, 2015 at 7:55 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Rich, that is simply amazing. How long has it been in development?
>
> Reminds me of something from the Clever Mechanisms books, or those grand
> old patents from a century or more ago.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>
>
>

# 2305. Re: hand made key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-20 02:31:15 UTC
From: wb9lpu@...
Topic: 2298  Message: 2305

Hi, Gary -

That is a beautiful job, and I imagine that it has a special feel. I am fortunate (?) to live near a lumber supply that deals in cocobolo and other exotic woods. I work with them sparingly because of my introduction to the toxicity of cocobolo.

At the time, I was taking high doses of Niacin, and the skin on my eyelids began to peel. This is a possible side-effect of niacin, and I kept on working with cocobolo (making key bases, knobs, paddle fingerpieces, and ornamental boxes. And my eyelids kept on peeling. Then I read about the properties of cocobolo and put it away until further notice. My eye problems went away. Now I save my cocobolo machining projects until I have a number of things to make, and then I don goggles and face-mask and have a "cocobolo party". I can get away with working in short bursts.

There are a number of exotic woods available to me, such as ebony and bloodwood, but cocobolo is my favorite.

Anyway, I really enjoyed looking at your key and will be looking forward to what you do next.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 2306. QRP Rig Donation Needed!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-07-22 22:25:32 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2306  Message: 2306

Hello group, Many of you are already aware of the Halfway House for keys Program. We are a group that provides low cost to FREE straight keys for Young, newly licensed Amateurs who don't have the resources or support to purchase one of their own. At this time we are working with a young man of 17 who is in need of a QRP rig of some sort. Our group is ready to provide this person with a key, however we do have some regulations that dictate that the recipient must also have some type of working radio and antenna to get on the air.

We would like to ask if anyone in this group, or others you know may have a working QRP transceiver that they can donate to the Halfway house for keys program so we can get this young man started on his way with CW. This not only benefits the user, but also benefits all Amateur Radio operators by keeping the CW bands alive. It is very important that we support our youth, as they will be the next generation keeping the bands alive with not only CW but other modes as well.

If you can help us help him (and others like him) please contact me off the group so we can arrange something together. Thank you for all your support and help with this matter. 73,

Michael
N6MQL

n6mql at w6sfm dot com (email spelled out to keep spam to a minimum)

# 2307. Paul G4AFU Homemade bug.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-02 19:10:56 UTC
From: g4fadrich@...
Topic: 2307  Message: 2307

Hi All,
Thought this homemade bug looked great.

https://dub114.mail.live.com/?tid=cmRCiPUyM55RGSutidZ18T-w2&fid=flinbox
https://dub114.mail.live.com/?tid=cmRCiPUyM55RGSutidZ18T-w2&fid=flinbox
73 Rich G4FAD..

# 2308. TWENTY EACH - 80M & 40M CW BAND CRYSTAL COLLECTION ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-06 16:51:20 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2308  Message: 2308

HI FOLKS

PLEASE EXCUSE THIS POST BUT SOME MAY BE INTERESTED IN A DECADES LONG COLLECTION OF USEFUL CW CRYSTALS ON EBAY. YES I AM THE SELLER BUT A COLLECTION LIKE THIS DOESNT HIT EBAY OFTEN.

THE EBAY ITEM IS: 271950552718 OR SEARCH FOR "CW BAND CRYSTAL COLLECTION" IF INTERESTED. IF NOT, PLEASE EXCUSE THE POST AND DELETE. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO POST THIS ON ANY OTHER GROUPS YOU MAY BELONG TO IF THEY MIGHT BE INTERESTED.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2309. Re: [cw_bugs] TWENTY EACH - 80M & 40M CW BAND CRYSTAL COLLECTION ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-06 19:32:32 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2308  Message: 2309

I bet you get a pretty good price for those! Plenty of antenna work here, but not a lot of operating lately.

161,
Mike WØVTT

On 06-Aug-15 11:51, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> HI FOLKS
>
> PLEASE EXCUSE THIS POST BUT SOME MAY BE INTERESTED IN A DECADES LONG
> COLLECTION OF USEFUL CW CRYSTALS ON EBAY. YES I AM THE SELLER BUT A
> COLLECTION LIKE THIS DOESNT HIT EBAY OFTEN.
>
> THE EBAY ITEM IS: 271950552718 OR SEARCH FOR "CW BAND CRYSTAL
> COLLECTION" IF INTERESTED. IF NOT, PLEASE EXCUSE THE POST AND
> DELETE. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO POST THIS ON ANY OTHER GROUPS YOU MAY
> BELONG TO IF THEY MIGHT BE INTERESTED.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>

--
73,

# 2310. HI BUG FANS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-08 20:03:39 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2310  Message: 2310

IN CASE IT INTERESTS ANY OF YOU, THERE IS A HEAVY BASE BUG ON EBAY. IT WAS MADE BY ELECTRICAL SPECIALITY MFG IN CEDAR RAPIDS IOWA. IT STARTED AT 99 CENTS. THIS ONE DOES NOT SLIDE WHEN USED.

EBAY LINK:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/271952206686?ssPageName=STRK:MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2311. NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is a go!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-09 03:10:54 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2311  Message: 2311

Thanks to all who signed up to be Skeeters in the 2015 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt. The roster is set and there are 166 of you who signed up for numbers. My deepest thanks to all of you. Remember, you do not have to have a Skeeter number to play, so if you didn't sign up for one, don't feel left out or neglected. All QRPers, whether they be SSB or CW operators are invited to join in on the fun. Anyone who needs a last minute refresher on the rules can find them at www.qsl.net/w2lj
Be safe, have a great time and enjoy yourself and the great outdoors.
Please remember, all Log Summaries (actual logs are NOT needed) are due to be mailed to w2lj@... no later than Midnight, Monday August 24th.
72 de Larry W2LJ - Skeeter #13

# 2312. August RFTB tonight!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-16 14:35:57 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2312  Message: 2312

Tonight is the August 2015 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

"RFTB? What the heck is that?", you may be asking.

RFTB is a friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2313. Mecograph right angle

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-08-19 13:37:04 UTC
From: qrpcwguy@...
Topic: 2313  Message: 2313

Does anyone have a video of a right angle Mecograph in operation?

# 2314. 2015 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Results

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-07 02:44:46 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 2314  Message: 2314

A big and hearty "Thank You" to all who particpated in the 2015 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt last month. Wow, it was just a month ago?

The results and soapbox have been published for your perusal.

Scoreboard can be found at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lcRvpNb2jwgyJsqruCdecNiWXNpi6yz2l4vvJucp0UE/edit#gid=307219926

And the soapbox can be found at http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/index%20page%208

The main Skeeter Hunt page, if you want to take a gander at previous years results is (the links are at the bottom) http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

I am hoping (and will do my best) to get certificates out to those who earned them by the end of September.

See you again, on the second Sunday of August 2016!

72 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2315. Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-13 19:49:01 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2315  Message: 2315

Hello my name is John, AL7JK and I am addicted to bugs.
Its taken awhile for me to work up the nerve to join this group
at the suggestion of some fellow hams I've worked on hf.
The frequent disturbed propagation conditions over the past
month (or so) is preventing me from making many contacts.
Spend many hours calling cq on dead bands (even vhf & uhf)
knowing full well my signals are only traveling to the extent
of ground wave coverage.
I must use my bug key. Frequently. Throughout the day, sometimes
wake up in the middle of the night and call cq. It makes me
feel better watching my radio transmit and the smooth feel of
a vibroplex.

Thanks for reading this email and to the list administrator for
letting me be here.

73 de AL7JK, John
Eagle River, Alaska

# 2316. NAQCC Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-13 22:56:47 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2316  Message: 2316

The September sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (September 16th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, September 17th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201509.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2317. Re: Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-14 12:26:46 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2315  Message: 2317

John I'ts probably more lonely on this list than on the air!
I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody up there in AK. Around here in NC. we can usually scrape together a bug QSO anytime since we aren't so dependent upon propagation.
I have heard of some internet CW systems. Although not radio, it might be a temporary relief for bug fever. Also there's several remote control stations you can operate. I never do this so maybe others can chime in.

73 Steve N4LQ
using a 1934 McElroy 36A

# 2318. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-14 13:42:52 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2315  Message: 2318

Lonely? Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.

Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.
No, I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after being
the vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and
abilities in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through the
Thompson Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.

73
David N1EA
ex N1EA/MM Valdez, AK to Galveston, TX via Cape Horn South America.

-30-

On Mon, Sep 14, 2015 at 8:26 AM, n4lq@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> John
> I'ts probably more lonely on this list than on the air!
> I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody up
> there in AK.
> Around here in NC. we can usually scrape together a bug QSO anytime since
> we aren't so dependent upon propagation.
> I have heard of some internet CW systems. Although not radio, it might be
> a temporary relief for bug fever. Also there's several remote control
> stations you can operate. I never do this so maybe others can chime in.
>
> 73 Steve N4LQ
> using a 1934 McElroy 36A
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2319. RE: [cw_bugs] Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-14 15:22:39 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2315  Message: 2319

John,Why not publish your "usual band/freqs" so we bug men can be on the lookout for ya.73
Milt k4oso in Virginia

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone-------- Original message --------From: "al7jk@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 9/13/2015 3:49 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: [cw_bugs] Addicted to bugs

Hello my name is John, AL7JK and I am addicted to bugs.
Its taken awhile for me to work up the nerve to join this group
at the suggestion of some fellow hams I've worked on hf.
 The frequent disturbed propagation conditions over the past
month (or so) is preventing me from making many contacts.
Spend many hours calling cq on dead bands (even vhf & uhf)
knowing full well my signals are only traveling to the extent
of ground wave coverage.
 I must use my bug key. Frequently. Throughout the day, sometimes
wake up in the middle of the night and call cq. It makes me
feel better watching my radio transmit and the smooth feel of
a vibroplex.

 Thanks for reading this email and to the list administrator for
letting me be here.

73 de AL7JK, John
Eagle River, Alaska

# 2320. RE: [cw_bugs] Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-15 03:20:45 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2315  Message: 2320

>I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody

>73 Steve N4LQ

Hello Steve, propagation isnt quite as bad as I made it out to be in my earlier post, but sometimes it feels like it :) Usually can add a few log entries even during unstable geomagnetic conditions if I take the time. Propagation is a tad different than at the lower latitudes. During July when we are getting 17 hours of daylight I tend to ignore the radios until say 05 to 10 utc on weekends. We're in the fall mode allready, loosing lots of daylight fast, with lower sfi so I'm gonna stick with the nighttime hours on 40 & 20 mtrs. 17 mtrs can be hit or miss & 15 mtrs is dead for me.

>Why not publish your "usual band/freqs" so we bug men can be on the lookout for ya.
>73 Milt k4oso in Virginia

Howdy Milt, I've been hanging out around 14043 khz when not working the skcc bunch. On 40 mtrs I'm all over the cw segment. You fellers have a watering hole ?

73 de AL7JK, John

# 2321. RE: [cw_bugs] Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-15 12:00:44 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2315  Message: 2321

John,On 40m I'm usually between 025 and 030.  Generally, I'm 025 and slightly higher on the non-WARC bands.Milt k4oso

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone-------- Original message --------From: "al7jk@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 9/14/2015 11:20 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Addicted to bugs

>I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody
>73 Steve N4LQ

 Hello Steve, propagation isnt quite as bad as I made it out to be in my earlier post, but sometimes it feels like it :) Usually can add a few log entries even during unstable geomagnetic conditions if I take the time.
 Propagation is a tad different than at the lower latitudes. During July when we are getting 17 hours of daylight I tend to ignore the radios until say 05 to 10 utc on weekends. We're in the fall mode allready, loosing lots of daylight fast, with lower sfi so I'm gonna stick with the nighttime hours on 40 & 20 mtrs. 17 mtrs can be hit or miss & 15 mtrs is dead for me.

>Why not publish your "usual band/freqs" so we bug men can be on the lookout for ya.>73 Milt k4oso in Virginia

Howdy Milt, I've been hanging out around 14043 khz whe
n not working the skcc bunch.
On 40 mtrs I'm all over the cw segment. You fellers have a watering hole ?

73 de AL7JK, John

# 2322. FS: Original Vibroplex Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-15 14:12:46 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2322  Message: 2322

FOR SALE: Ancient Vibroplex Bug

SERIAL number 86595 dated from 1922

Complete and in very good condition. Nice original rubber feet etc.
All parts present and accounted for. This is a working, complete bug key that is highly collectable.

Available for $145.00 plus shipping

Pictures and details available on request.

# 2323. RE: FS: Original Vibroplex Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-16 13:06:21 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2322  Message: 2323

The Vibroplex bug from 1922 has been sold. Thank you to all who inquired.

Bry Carling, AF4K
SKCC#1879s

> Posted by: "Bry Carling AF4K" bcarling@... radios_r_me
> Date: Tue Sep 15, 2015 7:12 am ((PDT))
>
> FOR SALE: Ancient Vibroplex Bug
>
> SERIAL number 86595 dated from 1922
>
> Complete and in very good condition. Nice original rubber feet etc.
> All parts present and accounted for. This is a working, complete bug key that
> is highly collectable.
>
> Available for $145.00 plus shipping
>

# 2324. Re: [cw_bugs] FS: Original Vibroplex Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-16 13:33:31 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2322  Message: 2324

I love that vintage of Vibroplex. Of all my Vibroplex's, I have to say these are the best keys, even though the showman and engineer in me loves the Presentation with the adjustable mainspring, but if I were to modify the Presentation in any way, I'd put the 1920s dash hinge on the Presentation because it is a smoother action that the current (and much cheaper to produce) dog ear type hinge that is currently used. There is much less slop - it's a minor difference but it makes the old keys smoother.

If I could get a 1922 Vibroplex Original with a gold top plate and an adjustable mainspring, and maybe replace the bearings with the jewelled bearings top and bottom of the trunnion, it would be perfect, but I'd rebel against changing a real antique.

I'd buy it if I didn't have one, and I'd buy it in an instant.

I have no interest financially or other wise in the sale.

David N1EA

On Tue, Sep 15, 2015 at 10:12 AM, 'Bry Carling AF4K' bcarling@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> FOR SALE: Ancient Vibroplex Bug
>
> SERIAL number 86595 dated from 1922
>
> Complete and in very good condition. Nice original rubber feet etc.
> All parts present and accounted for. This is a working, complete bug key
> that
> is highly collectable.
>
> Available for $145.00 plus shipping
>
> Pictures and details available on request.
>
>
>
>
>
> ---
> Posted by: "Bry Carling AF4K" <bcarling@...>
> ---
>
>
> ---
>

> Yahoo Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 2325. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-16 23:25:23 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 2315  Message: 2325

http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

On Sep 14, 2015, "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>Lonely? Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.
>
>Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.
>No, I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after
>being
>the vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and
>abilities in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through
>the
>Thompson Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.
>
>73
>David N1EA
>ex N1EA/MM Valdez, AK to Galveston, TX via Cape Horn South America.
>
>-30-
>
>On Mon, Sep 14, 2015 at 8:26 AM, n4lq@... [cw_bugs] <
>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>> John
>> I'ts probably more lonely on this list than on the air!
>> I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from
>anybody up
>> there in AK.
>> Around here in NC. we can usually scrape together a bug QSO anytime
>since
>> we aren't so dependent upon propagation.
>> I have heard of some internet CW systems. Although not radio, it
>might be
>> a temporary relief for bug fever. Also there's several remote control
>> stations you can operate. I never do this so maybe others can chime
>in.
>>
>> 73 Steve N4LQ
>> using a 1934 McElroy 36A
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>

>>

-- Sent with K-@ Mail - the evolution of emailing.

# 2326. FS: Two Bugs for CW ops

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-18 17:57:08 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2326  Message: 2326

FOR SALE: Two Bug Keys

1) Vibroplex - complete and in nice working condition, gray base with shorting bar
Serial number
Available for $125.00

2) SPEED X Bug in super nice condition with a presentation case.
Available for $145.00 plus shipping.

Pictures and details available on request.

# 2327. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-19 11:51:45 UTC
From: John Raynsford
Topic: 2315  Message: 2327

>k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] >Sep 15 at 4:00 AM >John,>On 40m I'm usually between 025 and 030.  Generally, I'm 025 and slightly higher on the non-WARC >bands.>Milt k4oso
 Woke up at 2am/09utc this morning couldnt sleep. 40mtrs was full of signals fromAsia, could just barely hear stations in south of me in Oregon, Wa. & northern Ca.See we're back to geomagnetic storm levels yet again :( Had a nice chat with JR2IUB Take on 7028 khz, he was using his unique homemadebug key. If you havent seen it, Take-san has posted a video of his bug on qrz.com.
73 & Good DX to allde John, AL7JK

On Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:25 PM, "Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

  http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

On Sep 14, 2015, "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
  Lonely?  Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.
Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.No, I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after being the vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and abilities in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through the Thompson Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.
73David N1EAex N1EA/MM Valdez, AK to Galveston, TX via Cape Horn South America.
-30-
On Mon, Sep 14, 2015 at 8:26 AM, n4lq@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

JohnI'ts probably more lonely on this list than on the air!I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody up there in AK. Around here in NC. we can usually scrape together a bug QSO anytime since we aren't so dependent upon propagation. I have heard of some internet CW systems. Although not radio, it might be a temporary relief for bug fever. Also there's several remote control stations you can operate. I never do this so maybe others can chime in.
73 Steve N4LQusing a 1934 McElroy 36A

-- Sent with K-@ Mail - the evolution of emailing.

# 2328. Sunday night is the RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-19 14:13:25 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2328  Message: 2328

Sunday night is the September 2015 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

A friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2329. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Addicted to bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-19 16:03:26 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2315  Message: 2329

John,
Thanks for the tip! I found the video (http://nortonsafe.search.ask.com/search?q=JR2IUB&ctype=videos&geo=&prt=cr&o=apn10506&chn=&ver=&v=LcVYnOqpayc).
Very impressive
73,
Troy, W6HV
From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2015 4:51 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Re: Addicted to bugs

>k4oso k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs]
>Sep 15 at 4:00 AM
>John,
>On 40m I'm usually between 025 and 030. Generally, I'm 025 and slightly higher on the non-WARC >bands.
>Milt k4oso

Woke up at 2am/09utc this morning couldnt sleep. 40mtrs was full of signals from
Asia, could just barely hear stations in south of me in Oregon, Wa. & northern Ca.
See we're back to geomagnetic storm levels yet again :(
Had a nice chat with JR2IUB Take on 7028 khz, he was using his unique homemade
bug key. If you havent seen it, Take-san has posted a video of his bug on qrz.com.

73 & Good DX to all
de John, AL7JK

On Wednesday, September 16, 2015 3:25 PM, "Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

On Sep 14, 2015, "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Lonely? Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.

Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.
No, I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after being the vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and abilities in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through the Thompson Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.

73
David N1EA
ex N1EA/MM Valdez, AK to Galveston, TX via Cape Horn South America.

-30-

On Mon, Sep 14, 2015 at 8:26 AM, n4lq@....com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

John
I'ts probably more lonely on this list than on the air!
I guess you're main problem is that you're just too far away from anybody up there in AK. Around here in NC. we can usually scrape together a bug QSO anytime since we aren't so dependent upon propagation.
I have heard of some internet CW systems. Although not radio, it might be a temporary relief for bug fever. Also there's several remote control stations you can operate. I never do this so maybe others can chime in.

73 Steve N4LQ
using a 1934 McElroy 36A

-- Sent with K-@ Mail - the evolution of emailing.

# 2330. Bugs and http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-20 12:13:23 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2330  Message: 2330

D.J.J. Ring writes:
  Lonely?  Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.
Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.No,
I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after being the
vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and abilities
in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through the Thompson
Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.

Yeah great - don't forget the bridge to nowhere, LOL...

Say I want to find the video of the guy in Japan with his home made bug - any idea where to see it? Is there a Youtube link anyone has found? JR2IUB I think. I have never worked him but would love to hear that thing. Yeah I expect AL7JK can easily work JA stations in the night with that location in Alaska. Maybe he can stage a DXpedition to the bridge to nowhere... :)

73 de AF4K Bry
SKCC #1879s

# 2331. Re: [cw_bugs] Bugs and http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-20 18:09:35 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2330  Message: 2331

Bry,
Here is how I found it:
http://nortonsafe.search.ask.com/search?q=JR2IUB&ctype=videos&geo=&prt=cr&o=apn10506&chn=&ver=&v=LcVYnOqpayc
Hope this works for you!
Enjoyed our QSO awhile back.
73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2015 5:13 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Bugs and http://www.snopes.com/politics/palin/russia.asp

D.J.J. Ring writes:
Lonely? Nah, when John calls CQ, the locals, the UA0's reply.
Remember you can see Russia from Sara Palin's front porch in Wasilla.No,
I'm not anti Sara, she gave an excellent speech on energy after being the
vice president choice - she showed the Alaskan determination and abilities
in getting the pipeline done, and building the road through the Thompson
Pass to the Arctic Circle oil fields.

Yeah great - don't forget the bridge to nowhere, LOL...

Say I want to find the video of the guy in Japan with his home made bug - any idea where to see it? Is there a Youtube link anyone has found? JR2IUB I think. I have never worked him but would love to hear that thing. Yeah I expect AL7JK can easily work JA stations in the night with that location in Alaska. Maybe he can stage a DXpedition to the bridge to nowhere... :)

73 de AF4K Bry
SKCC #1879s

# 2332. Evolution of the Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-21 12:51:00 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2332  Message: 2332

See page 54 for an interesting article about the bug.
http://www.arimi.it/wp-content/73/03_March_1962.pdf
http://www.arimi.it/wp-content/73/03_March_1962.pdf

Steve N4LQ

# 2333. Re: [cw_bugs] Evolution of the Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-21 13:38:57 UTC
From: John Raynsford
Topic: 2332  Message: 2333

Thankgoodness they dont make us solder our weights
to slow us down anymore :)
Thanks for posting the magazine Steve.
73 de AL7JK, John

On Monday, September 21, 2015 4:51 AM, "n4lq@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
wrote:

  See page 54 for an interesting article about the
bug.http://www.arimi.it/wp-content/73/03_March_1962.pdf

Steve N4LQ

# 2334. WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-29 19:16:00 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2334

Hello.

Anyone have a spare to sell?

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

# 2335. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-30 03:27:41 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2334  Message: 2335

Fernando,

Make it easier on people by telling them which maker of bug you want the shorting knob for: Vibroplex, SpeedX/Johnson, McElroy, Bunnell, TACo, Dow Key, etc. They came in various styles and knob shapes and were usually black and red. I think Dow Key had blue and red. I have seen green, blue and yellow as well made by VE3AWA, John Merrick.

73
David N1EA
On Sep 29, 2015 3:16 PM, "Fernando n2fq@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hello.
>
> Anyone have a spare to sell?
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@...
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2336. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-09-30 17:23:24 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2336

It’s for a Vibroplex No. 4 Blue Racer.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@sbcglobal.net

> On Sep 29, 2015, at 8:27 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Fernando,
>
> Make it easier on people by telling them which maker of bug you want the shorting knob for: Vibroplex, SpeedX/Johnson, McElroy, Bunnell, TACo, Dow Key, etc. They came in various styles and knob shapes and were usually black and red. I think Dow Key had blue and red. I have seen green, blue and yellow as well made by VE3AWA, John Merrick.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
> On Sep 29, 2015 3:16 PM, "Fernando n2fq@... <mailto:n2fq@...>[cw_bugs]"
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
>
> Hello.
>
> Anyone have a spare to sell?
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@sbcglobal.net <mailto:n2fq@...>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2337. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-01 04:29:22 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2334  Message: 2337

Looks like it would be black, and I think I know the shape. If you don't find one, I should be able to make one for you from Delrin.

Gary, NA6O

# 2338. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-01 04:47:38 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2334  Message: 2338

Over the last few weeks I have been on a roll refurbishing my decent collection of Vibroplex keys, paddles and bugs. I'm in the process of fully restoring my "Lightning Bug" I purchased new as a kid back in the late 50s right now. (I paid $17.00 retail for it back then.) It too has a shorting lever with handle. (My shorting lever knob is in good shape.) Since I have been doing all this restoration, I have been buying parts for these restorations from Vibroplex and I have not found any pictograms showing a shorting lever on any of their diagrams nor a shorting lever knob available for sale from Vibroplex. Also, I see no present day Vibroplex being sold with a shorting lever on it.

One last caution. During restoration I have been temporarily removing the brass Vibroplex name plates from the basis. There are two 1 mm push in rivets holding the plate to the base. You use a 1mm punch to drive the rivet or pin out of the base from the underside. (The pins push out fairly easily.) The warning is: "Don't lose these two small 1mm pins!" They are no longer available from Vibroplex. I guess you could always make them or improvise coming up with something that would work, but you can't get replacements from Vibroplex. Don't lose the ones you have!
Lee, w0vt

On 9/30/2015 11:29 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Looks like it would be black, and I think I know the shape. If you
> don't find one, I should be able to make one for you from
>
> Delrin.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>

# 2339. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-01 06:52:01 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2334  Message: 2339

Lee,

When I last browsed around Vibroplex web site, I remember I saw a mechanical drawing for a Lightning Bug, it being the last model other than Original left that was still sold.

Gone were the Champion, Zephyr, Blue Racer, and Presentation models. Each model had different hardware requirements. The Blue Racer being the most unique with aproximately 75% scale parts compared with Original and a inch narrower base. Zephyr was a Champion on a half inch narrower base and shorting lever. Presentation had the gpld top plate and adjustable mainspring.

I will look and see if I can find the mechanical drawing for the Lightning Bug, but I think it was listed under discontinued models, or under parts.

73

David
N1EA
On Oct 1, 2015 12:47 AM, "Lee l@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Over the last few weeks I have been on a roll refurbishing my decent
> collection of Vibroplex keys, paddles and bugs. I'm in the process of
> fully restoring my "Lightning Bug" I purchased new as a kid back in the
> late 50s right now. (I paid $17.00 retail for it back then.) It too has a
> shorting lever with handle. (My shorting lever knob is in good shape.)
> Since I have been doing all this restoration, I have been buying parts for
> these restorations from Vibroplex and I have not found any pictograms
> showing a shorting lever on any of their diagrams nor a shorting lever knob
> available for sale from Vibroplex. Also, I see no present day Vibroplex
> being sold with a shorting lever on it.
>
> One last caution. During restoration I have been temporarily removing the
> brass Vibroplex name plates from the basis. There are two 1 mm push in
> rivets holding the plate to the base. You use a 1mm punch to drive the
> rivet or pin out of the base from the underside. (The pins push out fairly
> easily.) The warning is: "Don't lose these two small 1mm pins!" They are
> no longer available from Vibroplex. I guess you could always make them or
> improvise coming up with something that would work, but you can't get
> replacements from Vibroplex. Don't lose the ones you have!
> Lee, w0vt
>

> On 9/30/2015 11:29 PM, gwj@wb9jps.com [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
>
>
> Looks like it would be black, and I think I know the shape. If you don't
> find one, I should be able to make one for you from
> Delrin.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2340. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-01 18:04:10 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2340

Thanks Gary for the offer.
I’m looking into my straight keys stash shorting bar to see
if I can fashion something.

What would on of yours cost?

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Sep 30, 2015, at 9:29 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Looks like it would be black, and I think I know the shape. If you don't find one, I
should be able to make one for you from
> Delrin.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>
>
>

# 2341. T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 00:10:35 UTC
From: cfzepp@...
Topic: 2341  Message: 2341
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.

Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT

# 2342. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 00:15:18 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2341  Message: 2342

VERY NICE. I HOPE TO HEAR IT ON THE AIR.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 7:10 PM, cfzepp@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
> [Attachment(s) <#15025e3091b57834_TopText> from cfzepp@...
> [cw_bugs] included below]
>
> I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.
>
>
> Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT
>
>
>
>

# 2343. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 00:16:46 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2341  Message: 2343

Hi, Donnie -

A beautiful piece of work. Will you be bringing it to the
ECI QRP meeting?

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

On Thu, Oct 1, 2015 at 8:10 PM, cfzepp@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
> [Attachment(s) <#15025e30958c3cdb_TopText> from cfzepp@...
> [cw_bugs] included below]
>
> I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.
>
>
> Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT
>
>
>
>

# 2344. [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 00:20:05 UTC
From: Franco -PY1EPU
Topic: 2341  Message: 2344

Donnie,

Very nice.

A beautiful piece of work

73, Franco

PY1EPU – GG87kd

PY4EPU – GG88p0

Member:

CWSP - LABRE RJ - ARRL - SKCC - SIDESWIPER ( SSN )

FISTS CW Club - The International Morse Preservation Society

Collins Collectors Association - Drake Collectors Association.

Vibroplex Collectors Association - Essex CW Amateur Radio Club (ECWARC)

Amateur Radio Moonbounce Communications - 144 Mhz (Earth - Moon - Earth)

==========

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Enviada em: quinta-feira, 1 de outubro de 2015 21:11
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Assunto: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from cfzepp@... [cw_bugs] included below]

I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.

Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT

---
Este email foi escaneado pelo Avast antivírus.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2345. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 01:13:02 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2341  Message: 2345

Beautiful work!!

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 5:10 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from cfzepp@... [cw_bugs] included below]

I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.

Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT

# 2346. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 02:18:52 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2334  Message: 2346

Dave, TNX, found it.
Lee, w0vt
>
> When I last browsed around Vibroplex web site, I remember I saw a
> mechanical drawing for a Lightning Bug, it being the last model other
> than Original left that was still sold.
>
> Gone were the Champion, Zephyr, Blue Racer, and Presentation models.
> Each model had different hardware requirements. The Blue Racer being
> the most unique with aproximately 75% scale parts compared with
> Original and a inch narrower base. Zephyr was a Champion on a half
> inch narrower base and shorting lever. Presentation had the gpld top
> plate and adjustable mainspring.
>
> I will look and see if I can find the mechanical drawing for the
> Lightning Bug, but I think it was listed under discontinued models, or
> under parts.
>
> 73
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>

# 2347. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 04:53:23 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2341  Message: 2347

The plating looks new. What did you do to it?

I found that a motorcycle product called "Pig Spit" is excellent for hammertone type paint like the one on that bug. It is a spray that cleans between the bumps of the paint. Spray use a very soft tooth brush, it is excellent.

David
N1EA
On Oct 1, 2015 8:10 PM, "cfzepp@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> [Attachment(s) <#15025e30aeb5a132_TopText> from cfzepp@...
> [cw_bugs] included below]
>
> I recently restored this 1941 T.R. McElroy A-400 bug.
>
>
> Enjoy, Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2348. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 04:57:56 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2341  Message: 2348

The paint is Wrinkle paint not hammertone paint.
Lee, w0vt

On 10/1/2015 11:53 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> The plating looks new. What did you do to it?
>
> I found that a motorcycle product called "Pig Spit" is excellent for
> hammertone type paint like the one on that bug. It is a spray that
> cleans between the bumps of the paint. Spray use a very soft tooth
> brush, it is excellent.
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>

# 2349. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 05:36:15 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2341  Message: 2349

That is truly beautiful !

I received my 1938 D/L is a deplorably damaged state, and had to make a new dash-arm & spindle, so gave up hope of true restoration. The bit of a twist-drill I used to make the spindle, although as hard as a woman's heart, was barely long enough. So I put the top pivot screw right down flush, with the lock-nut beneath the yoke. It looks far neater, too.

As with shoes, sports gear, musical instruments, and so on, the subtleties of design and manufacture make important differences. So, for some reason, I send better-formed code with fewer errors with the McE than with any Vibro I've ever tried. It's almost good enough to unleash on the air ! 50 years ago, I think I was very good, but electric bugs have rotted my fingers' timing, but doubtless improved my discernment. Thus I know better what I'm trying to do, and get more dissatisfied with my ability.

I think I'll get Jeeves to do my sending for me...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2350. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 07:56:23 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2341  Message: 2350

Advancing age robbed me of the correct word, "Pig Spit" is great for chrome also. <http://www.pigspit.com/product/385/>

Wrinkle paint is even harder to clean and it is what the McElroy has and I used Pig Spit to clean it and it was beautiful - even works on similar paint on Vibroplex keys that can be difficult to restore - I have used Formula 409 to remove the yellow of tobacco so often found on worthy instruments from the Railroad Dispatch.

73
DR

On Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 12:57 AM, Lee l@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> The paint is Wrinkle paint not hammertone paint.
> Lee, w0vt
>
> On 10/1/2015 11:53 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
>
>
> The plating looks new. What did you do to it?
>
> I found that a motorcycle product called "Pig Spit" is excellent for
> hammertone type paint like the one on that bug. It is a spray that cleans
> between the bumps of the paint. Spray use a very soft tooth brush, it is
> excellent.
>
> David
> N1EA
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2351. Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 10:06:03 UTC
From: cfzepp@...
Topic: 2341  Message: 2351

Rich: Thanks for the comments on the McElroy A-400. If I remember I will bring it to the upcoming meeting on Oct 17th.

Im looking forward to your key presentation at that meeting.

Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT

# 2352. RES: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 12:43:41 UTC
From: Franco -PY1EPU
Topic: 2341  Message: 2352

David,

GREAT INFORMATION.....TKS

73, Franco

PY1EPU – GG87kd

PY4EPU – GG88p0

Member:

CWSP - LABRE RJ - ARRL - SKCC - SIDESWIPER ( SSN )

FISTS CW Club - The International Morse Preservation Society

Collins Collectors Association - Drake Collectors Association.

Vibroplex Collectors Association - Essex CW Amateur Radio Club (ECWARC)

Amateur Radio Moonbounce Communications - 144 Mhz (Earth - Moon - Earth)

==========

De: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Enviada em: sexta-feira, 2 de outubro de 2015 04:56
Para: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Assunto: Re: [cw_bugs] T.R. McElroy A-400 Restoration

Advancing age robbed me of the correct word, <http://www.pigspit.com/product/385/> "Pig Spit" is great for chrome also.

Wrinkle paint is even harder to clean and it is what the McElroy has and I used Pig Spit to clean it and it was beautiful - even works on similar paint on Vibroplex keys that can be difficult to restore - I have used Formula 409 to remove the yellow of tobacco so often found on worthy instruments from the Railroad Dispatch.

73
DR

On Fri, Oct 2, 2015 at 12:57 AM, Lee l@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

The paint is Wrinkle paint not hammertone paint.
Lee, w0vt

On 10/1/2015 11:53 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:

The plating looks new. What did you do to it?

I found that a motorcycle product called "Pig Spit" is excellent for hammertone type paint like the one on that bug. It is a spray that cleans between the bumps of the paint. Spray use a very soft tooth brush, it is excellent.

David
N1EA

---
Este email foi escaneado pelo Avast antivírus.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2353. Re: WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 15:01:44 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2334  Message: 2353

Fernando, for a simple little part like that it's a freebie. If someone can supply a really good photo with a scale then I can make a fairly accurate reproduction. Otherwise it's guesswork from pics on the web.

Gary NA6O

# 2354. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-02 17:53:33 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2354
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Thank Gary.

Here is one from my other 04 on 1/4 in graph paper.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Oct 2, 2015, at 8:01 AM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Fernando, for a simple little part like that it's a freebie. If someone can supply a really good photo with a scale then I can make a fairly accurate reproduction. Otherwise it's guesswork from pics on the web.
>
> Gary NA6O
>
>
>

# 2355. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-03 00:32:47 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2334  Message: 2355

Perfect. Should be able to make it in a couple days. Will mail it to you.

Gary

# 2356. Re: WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-03 07:51:23 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2334  Message: 2356

Fernando now you will have a surplus...ha...its on the way.73Pete W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2357. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-03 15:26:50 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2357

Thanks Pete.

I’ll share them with the group.

You have sent me great info. Very detailed. I’m still digesting.

Will show you when I’m done.

take care.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Oct 3, 2015, at 12:51 AM, cameldriver777 cameldriver777@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>
> Fernando now you will have a surplus...ha...its on the way.
> 73
> Pete W5PEH
>
>
> Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone
>
>
>

# 2358. WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 16:07:30 UTC
From: <john@...>
Topic: 2358  Message: 2358

Hello all !
I am looking for a terminal nut for a Vibroplex Original 1994. Wonder if anyone has one spare they could sell me please ? ( QTH England, UK). Also need a weight or two. Thought I would try here before asking Vibroplex.

73

John Snell / GØRDO
www.morsemad.com

# 2359. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 16:45:38 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2358  Message: 2359

You are very wise not to buy a spare from Vibroplex; you will find it difficult to operate without arms & legs. I have a 1950s "Presentation" and the little red poke-in pretty bit on the hole where the pivot-screw goes through the yoke went AWOL. I enquire, & they wanted $10 for the small piece of plastic, + carriage. I decided to go without, & look for a suitable bit of junks to make a replacement. A tiny piece from a sign-making works' scrap bin worked a treat, but in polishing it, I dropped the *%^&~@ thing on the shack floor. Using a method I'd already developed (which I commend to you), I shoved a small piece of old shirt across the vacuum cleaner nozzle before pushing on a short extension tube. Going all over & round the floor (things can go yards, falling on the deck), on opening the connexion from nozzle to hose over a sheet of newspaper(I recommend the Telegraph, of course !), out fell the missing bit, plus the original ! I thought it had been lost at field-day, but there it was.

I do clean the floor, every decade or so, whether it needs it or no. I'm obsessively fussy like that. So, three penn'orth (old money) of The Mysterious Electric Fluid saved me the price of several pints of beer !

But that's just a story. I wrote to say "Sorry, can't help"

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2360. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 17:07:11 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2358  Message: 2360

The Red Decorative Top Piece (nbr: 8018) is $5.00 plus shipping in the US from Vibroplex. I have found new ones to be a loose fit and the pin depth to be shorter then desired. Consequently a little clear silicon helps retain the item from popping out.

Another point maybe of interest to the group. The two pins holding the Vibroplex Brass identification plate push out from the bottom side of the base with a 1mm punch. They come out fairly easily. Please do not lose them as they are no longer available. When you want to reinstall the plate use a "hollow end roll pin holding starter punch" to drive the two pins back in. This hollow end punch will center itself over the round head of the pins so it can't slip off the pin. A regular flat punch can easily slip off the center of the pin head and possibly damage the non replaceable brass ID plate on it's edge ridge.
Lee, w0vt

# 2361. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 17:35:23 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2358 Message: 2361

Excellent advise, Lee.

I have learned my lesson too late.

When Vibroplex moved to Maine and was owned by Peter Gasgoe, he did away with the tiny #4 machine screws and thin tinned braid from main lever to frame of Deluxe finish keys with jeweled bearings providing them with a excellent ground.

After the discontinuance of the grounding braid, the #4 short screws - 1/8 inch? or shorter probably 3/32 inch, the stock was used up when repairing or restoring and they were never ordered again.

Such short screws are not available, so if you need one you have to pay a ridiculous amount to a machine shop who has to do them one at a time. If you bought 10,000 the per unit cost would be reasonable, but buying ten or so is very expensive. However making them yourself with a Dremel, or hacksaw and tap and die makes the price almost sound reasonable.

The moral of the story is - when Vibroplex changes something - the shorting braid, the shorting switches, the maker's serial number plate, buy up the associated parts from Vibroplex. Having a deluxe shorting switch was cheap $7.50 when I bought four of them as now they are now UN-OBTAIN-IUM.

To make the threaded red dummy screws placed in the top of the trunnion was likewise a huge amount, so the threaded red decorative pieces were discontinued by either Mr. Gasgoe or by Mitch Fenton of Vibroplex Maine / Vibroplex Mobile, AL.

Keep swinging those pendulums, you bug guys and gals.

DR

# 2362. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 18:34:26 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2358  Message: 2362

#4-40 by 1/8" screws are readily available from McMaster-Carr at $4.27
per hundred. Seems pretty reasonable to me:
http://www.mcmaster.com/#machine-screws/=z9lb1r

Scott at Vibroplex said he would consider making the shorting switches
again if he received enough requests.

--
73, Mike WØVTT

On 07-Oct-15 12:35, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Excellent advise, Lee.
>
> I have learned my lesson too late.
>
> When Vibroplex moved to Maine and was owned by Peter Gasgoe, he did
> away with the tiny #4 machine screws and thin tinned braid from main
> lever to frame of Deluxe finish keys with jeweled bearings providing
> them with a excellent ground.
>
> After the discontinuance of the grounding braid, the #4 short screws -
> 1/8 inch? or shorter probably 3/32 inch, the stock was used up when
> repairing or restoring and they were never ordered again.
>
> Such short screws are not available, so if you need one you have to
> pay a ridiculous amount to a machine shop who has to do them one at a
> time. If you bought 10,000 the per unit cost would be reasonable, but
> buying ten or so is very expensive. However making them yourself with
> a Dremel, or hacksaw and tap and die makes the price almost sound
> reasonable.
>
> The moral of the story is - when Vibroplex changes something - the
> shorting braid, the shorting switches, the maker's serial number
> plate, buy up the associated parts from Vibroplex. Having a deluxe
> shorting switch was cheap $7.50 when I bought four of them as now they
> are now UN-OBTAIN-IUM.
>
> To make the threaded red dummy screws placed in the top of the
> trunnion was likewise a huge amount, so the threaded red decorative
> pieces were discontinued by either Mr. Gasgoe or by Mitch Fenton of
> Vibroplex Maine / Vibroplex Mobile, AL.
>
> Keep swinging those pendulums, you bug guys and gals.
>
> DR
>

>
>

# 2363. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 18:43:33 UTC
From: dk4xl@...
Topic: 2358  Message: 2363

I have what you need, need a photo of the existing
terminal nut to find a matching one.
Weight - chromed ? Yes - 1994...

Martin

-----Ursprüngliche Nachricht-----
Gesendet: Mittwoch, 07 Oktober 2015 um 18:07:30 Uhr
Von: "john@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
An: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Betreff: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.
Hello all !
I am looking for a terminal nut for a Vibroplex Original 1994. Wonder if anyone has one spare they could sell me please ? ( QTH England, UK). Also need a weight or two. Thought I would try here before asking Vibroplex.

73

John Snell / GØRDO
www.morsemad.com

# 2364. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 19:17:15 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 2358  Message: 2364

Wow. Thanks Martin for the speedy reply.
Tomorrow I will send you a photo of the required terminal screw etc.

Sent from my iPhone

> On 7 Oct 2015, at 19:43, dk4xl@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> I have what you need, need a photo of the existing
> terminal nut to find a matching one.
> Weight - chromed ? Yes - 1994...
>
> Martin
>
> -----Ursprüngliche Nachricht-----
> Gesendet: Mittwoch, 07 Oktober 2015 um 18:07:30 Uhr
> Von: "john@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> An: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Betreff: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.
> Hello all !
> I am looking for a terminal nut for a Vibroplex Original 1994. Wonder if anyone has
> one spare they could sell me please ? ( QTH England, UK). Also need a weight or two.
> Thought I would try here before asking Vibroplex.
>
> 73
>
> John Snell / GØRDO
> www.morsemad.com
>

# 2365. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-07 23:32:30 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2358  Message: 2365

I hope that's the size I need, Mike!

Mitch says he gave Scott the die for the Vibroplex makers tag, but Scott says no.

Too bad. It was fun to know the birth date of a key.

Three things I would love to see: ground strap for jeweled movement keys, brass Vibroplex tag with serial no., shorting switch needed fpr civil war reenactors, radio people tune up tube rigs withnit.

73

DR
On Oct 7, 2015 2:34 PM, "Mike Cizek W0VTT mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> #4-40 by 1/8" screws are readily available from McMaster-Carr at $4.27 per
> hundred. Seems pretty reasonable to me:
> http://www.mcmaster.com/#machine-screws/=z9lb1r
>
> Scott at Vibroplex said he would consider making the shorting switches
> again if he received enough requests.
>
> --
> 73, Mike WØVTT
>
> On 07-Oct-15 12:35, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
>
> Excellent advise, Lee.
>
> I have learned my lesson too late.
>
> When Vibroplex moved to Maine and was owned by Peter Gasgoe, he did away
> with the tiny #4 machine screws and thin tinned braid from main lever to
> frame of Deluxe finish keys with jeweled bearings providing them with a
> excellent ground.
>
> After the discontinuance of the grounding braid, the #4 short screws - 1/8
> inch? or shorter probably 3/32 inch, the stock was used up when repairing
> or restoring and they were never ordered again.
>
> Such short screws are not available, so if you need one you have to pay a

> ridiculous amount to a machine shop who has to do them one at a time. If
> you bought 10,000 the per unit cost would be reasonable, but buying ten or
> so is very expensive. However making them yourself with a Dremel, or
> hacksaw and tap and die makes the price almost sound reasonable.
>
> The moral of the story is - when Vibroplex changes something - the
> shorting braid, the shorting switches, the maker's serial number plate, buy
> up the associated parts from Vibroplex. Having a deluxe shorting switch
> was cheap $7.50 when I bought four of them as now they are now
> UN-OBTAIN-IUM.
>
> To make the threaded red dummy screws placed in the top of the trunnion
> was likewise a huge amount, so the threaded red decorative pieces were
> discontinued by either Mr. Gasgoe or by Mitch Fenton of Vibroplex Maine /
> Vibroplex Mobile, AL.
>
> Keep swinging those pendulums, you bug guys and gals.
>
> DR
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2366. Embossed Brass Tag / Screw Pins

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-08 10:42:13 UTC
From: Donnie Garrett (WA9TGT)
Topic: 2366  Message: 2366

When Mitch purchased Vibroplex they soon began to use a slightly larger diameter screw pin to attach the brass nameplates, he also slightly changed the same 2 pins hole to hole spacing.

Donnie Garrett / WA9TGT

SKCC #10784
Sent from my iPad Air

# 2367. Re: WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-08 16:33:52 UTC
From: john@...
Topic: 2358  Message: 2367

Looks like my original message has been hi-jacked..... So here it is again -

Hello all !
I am looking for a terminal nut for a Vibroplex Original 1994. Wonder if anyone has one spare they could sell me please ? ( QTH England, UK). Also need a weight or two with the screws.
Thought I would try here before asking Vibroplex.

73

John Snell / GØRDO
http://www.morsemad.com/ http://www.morsemad.com/

# 2368. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Shorting lever knob

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-09 02:12:21 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2334  Message: 2368

Gary.

Received your perfect reproduction.

Blueing the metal threads to prevent rust

was a bonus. Nice touch.

I’m at your disposal should you need something.

Next time you are over this side of the hill stop by.

73

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Oct 2, 2015, at 10:53 AM, Fernando <n2fq@...> wrote:
>
> Thank Gary.
>
> Here is one from my other 04 on 1/4 in graph paper.
>
> <Blue Racer Knob.jpg>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
> n2fq@... <mailto:n2fq@...>
>
>
>
>
>> On Oct 2, 2015, at 8:01 AM, gwj@... <mailto:gwj@...> [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>>
>>
>>
>> Fernando, for a simple little part like that it's a freebie. If someone can supply a really good photo with a scale then I can make a fairly accurate reproduction. Otherwise it's guesswork from pics on the web.
>>
>> Gary NA6O
>>
>>
>>
>

# 2369. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-09 04:12:59 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2358  Message: 2369

I'm with you DR. Those 3 wishes you list mean a lot to me too. Besides, the switch is really nice to have and use on old boat anchor rigs for tune up. The grounding of the arm is important too for some of these micro power keyers. The brass tag just goes so much better with a vintage bug or paddle too.

I get a little uptight to have Vibroplex sell a shoulder washer for $1.80 when you can buy the same thing from a bolt store for 20 cents. But, I understand they are providing a one stop shop service and I am sure they are not selling huge quantities and they need to pay the rent.

I have added a grounding strap to a couple of my paddles and am doing it to one I am refurbishing right now. The two short 4-40 screws were in the paddle when I bought the project. All I have to do is add the wire. I usually use some stranded silver wire I take out of some Teflon hook up wire lying around here. I've got some short 4-40 screws around here when needed but I can't remember where I got them. I have purchased hardware from McMaster-Carr and also from a local big time hardware company. I usually buy stainless Steel hardware and buy it by the box. Prices this way are super cheap. I am always amazed of the fact this local supply store always has the hardware I am looking for in stock. It can be small stuff to bolts and nuts for a tower. They always have it. (I live in the Houston, Texas area.)

Lee, w0vt

> Three things I would love to see: ground strap for jeweled movement
> keys, brass Vibroplex tag with serial no., shorting switch
>

73

DR
>
>
>

# 2370. Re: [cw_bugs] WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-09 04:24:26 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2358  Message: 2370

One more thing while I am on a roll here. My next project is re-painting a vintage Lightning Bug with gray wrinkle paint. As most are aware wrinkle paint in gray has been almost impossible to find lately. (Yes I know you can paint it wrinkle black and then re-spray it gray. ) However, I found some wrinkle gray in a can available from Amazon.com the other day and consequently have placed an order for some. It should be here maybe tomorrow. (This is in a can and NOT in a spray can.) I plan to dispense it within a disposable spray bottle and compressed air bottle from Preval sold at your local hardware box store such as The Home Depot. i have had very good luck using these spray bottles. I have used them to repaint Drake cabinets with very good luck. So time will tell how I make out with this Gray wrinkle Paint from Amazon. More to follow on this. I hope the color gray seems good too. If not I'll re-paint the gray with a better gray and even if I have to do this, it will be easier to respray a gray rather then over black.

Lee, w0vt

# 2371. 10-10 Fall CW Contest

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-12 11:59:37 UTC
From: Bry Carling AF4K
Topic: 2371  Message: 2371

FYI:

10-10 International Fall Contest, CW: 0001Z, Oct 17 to 2359Z, Oct 18

10m band CW only.

Exchange:
10-10 Member: Name + 10-10 number + (state/province/country)
Non-Member: Name + 0 + (state/province/country)

1 point per QSO with a non-member
2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member

Submit logs by: November 2, 2015

Full details and rules:
http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-rules

# 2372. NAQCC Sprint Tonight

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-13 09:16:23 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2372  Message: 2372

The October sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (October 13th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, October 14th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201510.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Also, the N#A stations, celebrating the Anniversary event will be on the air, taking part in the sprint.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ

# 2373. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event coming soon!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-16 04:47:20 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2373  Message: 2373

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! Saturday November 21st - Sunday Nov. 22nd, 2015
7:00 AM to 7:00 AM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1500 UTC through 1500 UTC

For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window link can be found near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2374. Tonight is the October RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-18 15:42:25 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2374  Message: 2374

Sunday night is the October 2015 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

A friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2375. #4-40 x 1/8th inch machine Screws

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-19 01:20:46 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2358  Message: 2375

Some time ago there was some talk about Vibroplex stopping to include a grounding wire from the base and arm of their paddles. (The wire is secured on both ends with a #4-40 x 1/8th inch screw. In some cases the screws were supplied but not the wire.) I have been refurbishing some of my collection and have been installing the missing wire. I use the stranded silver wire out of #26 Teflon hook-up wire. In some cases I was lucky in having the paddle containing the needed screws but in other cases I had to supply the screws as well as the wire.

It was mentioned a 4-40 x 1/8th inch screw is very hard to find and would cost big bucks to have a couple made special order. That said, I have some stainless steel #4-40 x 1/8th inch slotted pan head machine screws here. I have a few more then I will be using. Consequently I would be willing to part with a few of them, as needed, if some of you guys out there need one or two of them for your paddle. I'm not wanting to get paid for them as I am doing this to repay a couple other hams who have helped me out when I needed help in the past.

Send me an e-mail letting me know what you need and I'll get them off to you. Hope this can help some of you out.

Lee, w0vt

# 2376. Re: WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-19 04:48:46 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2358  Message: 2376

If anyone wants some very tiny braid for their bugs, I can offer some micro coax. It's an all-Teflon coax with silver plated copper braid, and it's the smallest coax I've seen, must be all of 50 mils diameter. I use it in small RF and audio assemblies (no connectors though...). Anyway, you can strip the jacket and easily extract the braid. Wires are like angel's hair. Just email me and I'll send you a few feet. I must have over 1000 feet of it, got it surplus for darned near nothing.

Gary, NA6O

# 2377. Autronic Paddles

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-27 11:16:04 UTC
From: ed.n3cw@...
Topic: 2377  Message: 2377

Hello,
Anyone have a set of the gray Autronic paddle fingerpieces they don't need? Thanks for any leads...
--Ed, N3CW--

# 2378. TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 12:29:08 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2378  Message: 2378

Hello all--thanks for letting me join this group. I've only been collecting bugs for a few years and have a total of five so far. Here is a link to my latest find a TAC hole-in-the-wall:
kb8tt.net/TAC

I probably did the unspeakable with this key--I clipped off several turns from the dit tension spring. But it greatly improved the operation of the bug.

I'm interested in finding more information about TAC (Telegraph Apparatus Company). There is a little info on the internet, but I'm looking for more details.

Thanks and 73
Dave KB8TT

# 2379. Re: [cw_bugs] TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 12:45:25 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2378  Message: 2379

Thank a meg. That's beautiful ! The finish is good, even compared with the Vibro "Presentation" I use out here. At home, I have a TRM 1938 deluxe, which I find makes far fewer errors. This has nothing at all to do with the fact that at home I have a car, & need to use it, so don't drink so much; nothing whatever (hic !)

My initial are TRM, too, but there the resemblance ends... They should have been QSD.

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2380. Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 13:31:43 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2378  Message: 2380

TKS Mort--

I'm QSD here most of the time (HI), but I'm improving. The TAC is extremely fast with two weights (faster than I can comfortably send and copy), and my favorite right now is a Blue Racer 2K. I hated the Blue Racer at first--extremely difficult to adjust and get good dits for some reason. Got tired of cleaning the contacts all the time, so finally took a small file to the contacts. Another mortal sin, but it did solve the problem. Very smooth sending now.
73 Dave

# 2381. Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 13:35:49 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2378  Message: 2381

NICE FIND!

I HAVE THREE OF THESE BUGS. TWO WITH GREY PAINT AND ONE LIKE YOURS WITH THE CHROME FINISH. THE NICEST LOOKING GREY AND THE CHROME ARE IN MY BUG DISPLAY AND THE OTHER GREY ONE IS USED DAILY HERE. IT IS MY MOST USED BUG EVER SINCE I GOT IT. THE LARGE BASE IS VERY STABLE.

MY SPRINGS WERE STIFF ALSO. THE ONE I USE HAS THE SCREW BACKED OUT UNTIL THE SPRING IS TOUCHING HE ROD. STILL A BIT STIFF BUT I HAVE ENJOYED IT WITHOUT MODIFICATION.

THE ONLY GRIPE IS THE LOCK NUT ON THE BOTTOM PIVOT IS NOT EASY TO ACCESS.

ANYONE WHO HAS NOT USED ONE SHOULD JUMP AT THE CHANCE TO GRAB ONE. YOU CAN SEE THE ONE I USE ON MY QRZ PAGE.

73 BENNY K5KV

# 2382. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 15:48:42 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2378  Message: 2382

R, Dave !

I don't want to teach gran'Ma to suck eggs, but there is a mod on some keys which doesn't seem to gain currency (I don't gain much either, these days !) A bit of wire to put a minimum amount of pre-pressure on the dit U spring. One can pay arms & legs for a collar with a grub-screw, like the said dot-spring. or as I do (I make a cheapskate look like a profligate spendthrift) us a bit of bent copper wire to do the same thing.

It's more effective (for me) than electronic de-scratchers or bits of sponge-plastic.

My keys both sound perfect, once in a while. The remaining trouble is entirely with 'the nut holding the finger-pieces'. It saddens me that I was quite good 50 years ago, tho' I sez it meself as shouldn't, but the 'lectronic has permanently ruined my timing, I reckon. I have good days, but I wouldn't use it if I were trying to join FOC. I got in 40-odd years back, before Old Age set in, see Psalm 90, I think; "The days of our years are threescore years and ten, and if by reason of strength they be fourscore, yet shall they be labour and suffering, for it is soon gone and we fly away".

On that note of gloom, I wish you all the best & Happy Hunting !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2383. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 18:27:57 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2378  Message: 2383

I agree with Benny, K5-Kilo-Volt. The TACo bug and its big base makes for perhaps the best bug ever. Very consistant.

73

David N1EA
On Oct 30, 2015 9:35 AM, "Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> NICE FIND!
>
> I HAVE THREE OF THESE BUGS. TWO WITH GREY PAINT AND ONE LIKE YOURS WITH
> THE CHROME FINISH. THE NICEST LOOKING GREY AND THE CHROME ARE IN MY BUG
> DISPLAY AND THE OTHER GREY ONE IS USED DAILY HERE. IT IS MY MOST USED BUG
> EVER SINCE I GOT IT. THE LARGE BASE IS VERY STABLE.
>
> MY SPRINGS WERE STIFF ALSO. THE ONE I USE HAS THE SCREW BACKED OUT UNTIL
> THE SPRING IS TOUCHING HE ROD. STILL A BIT STIFF BUT I HAVE ENJOYED IT
> WITHOUT MODIFICATION.
>
> THE ONLY GRIPE IS THE LOCK NUT ON THE BOTTOM PIVOT IS NOT EASY TO ACCESS.
>
> ANYONE WHO HAS NOT USED ONE SHOULD JUMP AT THE CHANCE TO GRAB ONE. YOU
> CAN SEE THE ONE I USE ON MY QRZ PAGE.
>
> 73 BENNY K5KV
>
>
>
>

# 2384. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 20:07:20 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2378  Message: 2384

Thanks for the comments Benny and David. I made a short video to show how fast this key sends even with two weights on the end. Sorry for the sloppy fist, but it is a fast key for me and I was holding the camera in my other hand--akin to chewing gum and rubbing your stomach at the same time. HI.

TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be

TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug

View on www.youtube... https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be
Preview by Yahoo

Dave KB8TT

# 2385. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-10-30 21:09:19 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2378  Message: 2385

I think you might be making the common error of paddle users - the spacing of the semi-automatic key is too close.

Your dots seems to be adjusted to compensate for the fast pendulum movement by making the dots long- maybe about 1.5 times too long if not a bit more.

Not that my fist is perfect or the video production is anything better than terrible, but you can see a video I made on bug adjustment here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NjjviNVaW8

I have another bug video also which might have an answer or two also.

73

David
On Fri, Oct 30, 2015 at 4:07 PM, kb8tt@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Thanks for the comments Benny and David. I made a short video to show how
> fast this key sends even with two weights on the end. Sorry for the sloppy
> fist, but it is a fast key for me and I was holding the camera in my other
> hand--akin to chewing gum and rubbing your stomach at the same time. HI.
>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> [image: image]
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> View on www.youtube...
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> Preview by Yahoo
>
>
>
>
> Dave KB8TT
>
>
>

# 2386. Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-02 06:26:00 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2378  Message: 2386

Hello Dave, enjoyed reading your article. Nice key and in excellent shape.
That is cool how you came across it in an antique shop ! Well done.
Great sounding keys, have worked K5KV, Benny when he was using his
TAC. Smooth cw ;)
Hopefully will hear and work you as well Dave.
73 de AL7JK, John

# 2387. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-02 13:24:24 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2378  Message: 2387

I USE THE MAC WEIGHT FROM WA9TGT TO TAME MY TAC BUG A BIT. THE MAC WEIGHT HAS THE EXACT SAME HOLE DIAMETER NEEDED FOR THE TAC BUG AND THE LARGE WEIGHT WITH ONLY ONE SCREW TO ADJUST FOR SPEED CHANGES IS A PLUS. JUST ME BUT I WOULD NOT TRADE THAT ONE LARGE WEIGHT FOR THE TWO FACTORY ONES.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Oct 30, 2015 at 3:07 PM, kb8tt@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Thanks for the comments Benny and David. I made a short video to show how
> fast this key sends even with two weights on the end. Sorry for the sloppy
> fist, but it is a fast key for me and I was holding the camera in my other
> hand--akin to chewing gum and rubbing your stomach at the same time. HI.
>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> [image: image]
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> TAC Hole-In-The-Wall Bug
> View on www.youtube...
> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIzeQFLoesQ&feature=youtu.be>
> Preview by Yahoo
>
>
>
>
> Dave KB8TT
>
>
>

# 2388. Re: TAC hole-in-the-wall bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-02 13:35:36 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2378  Message: 2388

Hi John--

Thanks, and, yes I was surprised to find something as nice as this key, especially in such good shape. It's still fast for me, but I keep tinkering with the adjustments and practicing. Its low speed is still faster than I am comfortable copying, but it is a good speed for the occasional pile up when I'm in the mood for DX. Hope to work u someday--I usually frequent 40 and 30 (sometimes mobile on 30) and 17 when conditions are good.

73 Dave KB8TT

# 2390. Bug keys made in USSR ?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-12 02:30:33 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2390  Message: 2390

Curious, been viewing various bug key collections online around the world.
There's no mention of bug keys made in the USSR. There are a few models
of sideswiper keys (cooties) displayed here and there. But no bugs.
73 de AL7JK, John

# 2391. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-16 19:33:52 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2391  Message: 2391

This is a general announcement to remind those interested that the W6SFM Samuel F Morse Amateur Radio Club will be holding its Semi Annual Bug Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html event NEXT SATURDAY!, November 21st starting from 1500 UTC though Sunday 1500 UTC. This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a time dedicated to celebrating our CW and Bug key heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs using a Bug style key as the sending instrument.
For more information including frequencies and where to optionally send your logs, or other event related pictures and emails after the event, please visit our Bug Roundup web page located at: http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html Be sure to mark this event on your calendar, we hope to hear you on the air this coming Saturday! 73

W6SFM

# 2392. Re: W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-16 20:40:50 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2391  Message: 2392

You might post this to the CWops group as well.

Gary, NA6O

# 2393. NAQCC Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-17 00:40:44 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2316  Message: 2393

The November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November 18th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, November 19th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201511.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2394. Re: [cw_bugs] NAQCC Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-17 00:47:37 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2316  Message: 2394

IS THERE A BUG CLASS?

On Mon, Nov 16, 2015 at 6:40 PM, 'Larry W2LJ' w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> The November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November
> 18th,
> EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT -
> 5:30-7:30PM),
> which translates as Thursday, November 19th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.
>
> For all the "official" information, please go to:
>
> http://naqcc.info/sprint201511.html
>
> There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other
> important
> information.
>
> Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and
> DX
> for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score
> in the
> GAIN antenna category.
>
> Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.
>
> This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer,
> straight
> key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but
> you
> must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
>
> If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other
> sprints
> running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the
> newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many
> veteran
> contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to
> help
> you make your contacts.
>
> If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your
> chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have
> 7100+

> members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the
> NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome
> certificate,
> with your membership number on it, which is good for life.
>
> Come join us and have a real good time!
>
> 72/73 de Larry W2LJ
> NAQCC #35
>
> for NAQCC
> http://naqcc.info/
>
> ---
>
> ---
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 2395. Re: [cw_bugs] NAQCC Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-17 00:55:10 UTC
From: LARRY MAKOSKI
Topic: 2316  Message: 2395

There is a 1.5X multiplier for using a bug.
2X for straight key1X for paddles 73 de Larry W2LJ
QRP - When you care to send the very least!

On Monday, November 16, 2015 7:47 PM, "Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

  IS THERE A BUG CLASS?

On Mon, Nov 16, 2015 at 6:40 PM, 'Larry W2LJ' w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

The November sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November  18th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, November 19th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201511.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---

---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

# 2396. Re: W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-11-18 15:51:24 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2391  Message: 2396

Thank you for that suggestion. Please feel free to share this information with ANYONE that you think may be interested. Thank you and 73,

W6SFM

# 2397. NAQCC Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-07 23:58:26 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2397  Message: 2397

The December sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (December 8th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, December 9th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201512.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

And since this is the last REGULAR Sprint for 2015, may I take the opportunity on behalf of the NACQQ to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2398. Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-11 15:51:33 UTC
From: lirr86@...
Topic: 2398  Message: 2398

Hi everyone,
After 33 years of straight key use, I took the plunge and bought a bug. That was 6 months ago...now I have 3 !
I have adapted the "wrist roll" technique that many suggest. I can send just fine that way and it is easy to do so.
What I would like to know is ; has anyone come across any documentation or original instructions from the early telegraph days; say from Mr Martin himself, on how to use a bug?

So far all I have found is a military instruction sheet from 1957 and a Western Union sheet from 1915; but that is only an adjustment guide.

Most bugs , right from the beginning ,had a finger piece much like a straight key and a thumb piece . Since the finger piece is the same design as a straight key, am I wrong to assume that the finger "tips" were meant to be placed there , just like a straight key? I use the side of my finger tip ; like most people have suggested, but I don't feel that's how it was designed.

Mechanically; the bug is designed for side to side horizontal movement and it would seem that it should be manipulated by using the wrist as a "hinge" to move side to side; not the rolling movement that I have adapted.

So far all I have been told is " use what ever method you are comfortable with" but I would just like to know how the inventors meant for a bug to be used.

Thanks
Rick
KA2PBO

# 2399. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-11 19:31:41 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2398  Message: 2399

Hi Rick,

I use the finger knuckle joint to push the button shaped fingerpiece, likewise the thumb knuckle joint is used to press the paddle shaped fingerpiece.

David
N1EA
On Dec 11, 2015 10:51 AM, "lirr86@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hi everyone,
>
> After 33 years of straight key use, I took the plunge and bought a bug.
> That was 6 months ago...now I have 3 !
>
> I have adapted the "wrist roll" technique that many suggest. I can send
> just fine that way and it is easy to do so.
>
> What I would like to know is ; has anyone come across any documentation or
> original instructions from the early telegraph days; say from Mr Martin
> himself, on how to use a bug?
>
>
> So far all I have found is a military instruction sheet from 1957 and a
> Western Union sheet from 1915; but that is only an adjustment guide.
>
>
> Most bugs , right from the beginning ,had a finger piece much like a
> straight key and a thumb piece . Since the finger piece is the same design
> as a straight key, am I wrong to assume that the finger "tips" were meant
> to be placed there , just like a straight key? I use the side of my finger
> tip ; like most people have suggested, but I don't feel that's how it was
> designed.
>
>
> Mechanically; the bug is designed for side to side horizontal movement and
> it would seem that it should be manipulated by using the wrist as a "hinge"
> to move side to side; not the rolling movement that I have adapted.
>
>
> So far all I have been told is " use what ever method you are comfortable
> with" but I would just like to know how the inventors meant for a bug to be
> used.

>
>
> Thanks
>
> Rick
>
> KA2PBO
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2400. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-12 01:06:40 UTC
From: Jerry
Topic: 2398 Message: 2400

Rick.. have you tried a search on You Tube ? You may find some 'Old Time Bug Use Videos' there ! This one..
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iC5RQNSSZH0
Is a '44 Navy One.. but uses a SK ! Have a look around, and perhaps you can find an 'Old Western Union' or ? 73
Jerry
VE6CPP

On 12/11/2015 15:51, lirr86@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi everyone,
>
> After 33 years of straight key use, I took the plunge and bought a
> bug. That was 6 months ago...now I have 3 !
>
> I have adapted the "wrist roll" technique that many suggest. I can
> send just fine that way and it is easy to do so.
>
> What I would like to know is ; has anyone come across any
> documentation or original instructions from the early telegraph days;
> say from Mr Martin himself, on how to use a bug?
>
>
> So far all I have found is a military instruction sheet from 1957 and
> a Western Union sheet from 1915; but that is only an adjustment guide.
>
>
> Most bugs , right from the beginning ,had a finger piece much like a
> straight key and a thumb piece . Since the finger piece is the same
> design as a straight key, am I wrong to assume that the finger "tips"
> were meant to be placed there , just like a straight key? I use the
> side of my finger tip ; like most people have suggested, but I don't
> feel that's how it was designed.
>
>
> Mechanically; the bug is designed for side to side horizontal movement
> and it would seem that it should be manipulated by using the wrist as
> a "hinge" to move side to side; not the rolling movement that I have
> adapted.
>
>
> So far all I have been told is " use what ever method you are
> comfortable with" but I would just like to know how the inventors
> meant for a bug to be used.
>

>
> Thanks
>
> Rick
>
> KA2PBO
>
>

# 2401. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-12 19:46:03 UTC
From: lirr86@...
Topic: 2398  Message: 2401

Thanks David,

I have watched your videos on YouTube many times. That's how I learned about the whole wrist rolling technique. I use the same joint of my index finger but my hands are too small to use the thumb joint.It works well for me. I am just a curious how Martin and Bunnell intended for the semi automatic to be used.

Rick KA2PBO

# 2402. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-12 19:49:03 UTC
From: lirr86@...
Topic: 2398  Message: 2402

Thanks Jerry,

Yes I have seen the Army and the Navy training videos for straight key use. Pretty neat stuff.I cant find any old Western Union operation guides ; just adjustment instructions. I have been on the telegraph websites too. I ll keep digging . I was just hoping someone had some info here.

Rick
KA2PBO

# 2403. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-13 00:40:47 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2398  Message: 2403

I think this is an interesting idea - using the wrist as a pivot in the horizontal plane, as opposed to in the vertical plane like you would with a straight key. Are there any real OTs on here (old LL telegraphers, maybe) who can comment? I'm still struggling to develop a good straight key fist.

--
73,
Mike Cizek WØVTT

On 12-Dec-15 13:46, lirr86@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Thanks David,
>
>
> I have watched your videos on YouTube many times. That's how I
> learned about the whole wrist rolling technique. I use the same joint
> of my index finger but my hands are too small to use the thumb
> joint.It works well for me. I am just a curious how Martin and
> Bunnell intended for the semi automatic to be used.
>
>
> Rick KA2PBO
>
>

# 2404. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-13 19:22:11 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2398  Message: 2404

The bug had two purposes when designed and used. mainly, it was to relieve the glass arm problems of the wrist, carpel tunnel syndrome. Typically, the dah side (knob) was pressed by the fore finger's left side at about the first knuckle. The dot side was actuated by the thumb.
Unlike paddles which are actuated mainly by the fingers, bugs are best when using the whole hand. Whether you move the hand with a swinging or rolling forearm depends on the individual operator, determined by comfort and fatigue issues. I have used both, but don't even think about it now days.

On 12/11/2015 9:51 AM, lirr86@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Hi everyone,
>
> After 33 years of straight key use, I took the plunge and bought a
> bug. That was 6 months ago...now I have 3 !
>
> I have adapted the "wrist roll" technique that many suggest. I can
> send just fine that way and it is easy to do so.
>
> What I would like to know is ; has anyone come across any
> documentation or original instructions from the early telegraph days;
> say from Mr Martin himself, on how to use a bug?
>
>
> So far all I have found is a military instruction sheet from 1957 and
> a Western Union sheet from 1915; but that is only an adjustment guide.
>
>
> Most bugs , right from the beginning ,had a finger piece much like a
> straight key and a thumb piece . Since the finger piece is the same
> design as a straight key, am I wrong to assume that the finger "tips"
> were meant to be placed there , just like a straight key? I use the
> side of my finger tip ; like most people have suggested, but I don't
> feel that's how it was designed.
>
>
> Mechanically; the bug is designed for side to side horizontal movement
> and it would seem that it should be manipulated by using the wrist as
> a "hinge" to move side to side; not the rolling movement that I have
> adapted.

>
>
> So far all I have been told is " use what ever method you are
> comfortable with" but I would just like to know how the inventors
> meant for a bug to be used.
>
>
> Thanks
>
> Rick
>
> KA2PBO
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2405. Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-14 21:24:05 UTC
From: k4oso@...
Topic: 2398  Message: 2405

If you've ever watched a video of Denice Stoops of KPH on the Vibroplex, it becomes obvious that individuality in sending style is what makes the key so great. No forearm rolling at this professional's operating position. :-}
Milt K4OSO

-----Original Message-----
From: Joe v31jp1957@gmail.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Sun, Dec 13, 2015 2:22 pm
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Early bug instructions/ documentation?

The bug had two purposes when designed and used. mainly, it was to relieve the glass arm problems of the wrist, carpel tunnel syndrome. Typically, the dah side (knob) was pressed by
the fore finger's left side at about the first knuckle. The dot side was actuated by the thumb.
Unlike paddles which are actuated mainly by the fingers, bugs are best when using the whole hand. Whether you move the hand with a swinging or rolling forearm depends on the individual
operator, determined by comfort and fatigue issues. I have used both, but don't even think about it now days.

On 12/11/2015 9:51 AM, lirr86@... [cw_bugs] wrote:

Hi everyone,

After 33 years of straight key use, I took the plunge and bought a bug. That was 6 months ago...now I have 3 !

I have adapted the "wrist roll" technique that many suggest. I can send just fine that way and it is easy to do so.

What I would like to know is ; has anyone come across any documentation or original instructions from the early telegraph days; say from Mr Martin himself, on how to use a bug?

So far all I have found is a military instruction sheet from 1957 and a Western Union sheet from 1915; but that is only an adjustment guide.

Most bugs , right from the beginning ,had a finger piece much like a straight key and a thumb piece . Since the finger piece is the same design as a straight key, am I wrong to assume that the finger "tips" were meant to be placed there , just like a straight key? I use the side of my finger tip ; like most people have suggested, but I don't feel that's how it was designed.

Mechanically; the bug is designed for side to side horizontal movement and it would seem that it should be manipulated by using the wrist as a "hinge" to move side to side; not the

rolling movement that I have adapted.

So far all I have been told is " use what ever method you are comfortable with" but I would just like to know how the inventors meant for a bug to be used.

Thanks

Rick

KA2PBO

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
5204 Texas Highway 49 W
Omaha, TX 75571-6474
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2406. unlearning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-14 21:50:57 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2406  Message: 2406

Unlearning electronic keyer , going back to VIBROPLEX CHAMPION
Any tips, tricks advice?

Spencer W1GAK

# 2407. RE: [cw_bugs] unlearning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-14 22:06:21 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2406  Message: 2407

It won't take long before you stop holding the dash side.  Stick with it....desire is the major component of success.Milt K4OSO

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone-------- Original message --------From: "silvergak@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 12/14/2015 4:50 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: [cw_bugs] unlearning

Unlearning electronic keyer , going back to VIBROPLEX CHAMPION
Any tips, tricks advice?
Spencer W1GAK

# 2408. Re: WTB: Vib Terminal Nut.

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-14 22:12:51 UTC
From: silvergak@...
Topic: 2358  Message: 2408

I have 4 stainless steel, From ZORO here in the states. Not chrome but look good. CHEAP.

# 2409. Re: [cw_bugs] unlearning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-14 23:53:06 UTC
From: MORTIMER TERENCE
Topic: 2406  Message: 2409

Percy Vere... He is the answer to everything, including breathing.

73 - Mort, G2JL

# 2410. Re: unlearning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-15 00:04:38 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2406  Message: 2410

SPENCER

JUST USE THE BUG. USE IT OFTEN AND USE ONLY THE BUG FOR ALL CW. SHORTLY
YOU WILL SOUND LIKE YOU ARE USING A PADDLE BUT YOU WILL BE ON THE BUG.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2411. RE: [cw_bugs] unlearning

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-15 01:55:02 UTC
From: Carey Magee
Topic: 2406  Message: 2411

That is exactly what happens to me when I switch over for a stint on the bug. I just keep at it and a few characters later things are good.

I love using bug. Glad to see and hear others do too.

Good luck. Hope to work you one day.

73,
Carey
On Dec 14, 2015 5:06 PM, "k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> It won't take long before you stop holding the dash side. Stick with
> it....desire is the major component of success.
> Milt K4OSO
>
>
>
> Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone
> -------- Original message --------
> From: "silvergak@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Date: 12/14/2015 4:50 PM (GMT-05:00)
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] unlearning
>
>
>
> Unlearning electronic keyer , going back to VIBROPLEX CHAMPION
>
> Any tips, tricks advice?
>
>
> Spencer W1GAK
>
>
>

# 2412. Need parts for 1951 Champion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-15 14:29:57 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2412  Message: 2412

I've recently acquired a 1951 Vibroplex Champion in fair but restorable shape. Although most of it's parts are still there, it's missing the entire arm and weight assembly (parts #10 and #13 on the factory parts list).

So, I'm looking for a replacement .....or a drawing with dimensions ....or just the dimensions and I'll fabricate one. I don't intend to restore this key to absolute factory original but would like it to look original to the casual observer.

Thanks for any help,

Merry Christmas and 73
Tom Warren

W4TMW

# 2413. NAQCC MilliWatt Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-16 03:08:28 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2413  Message: 2413

The December special milliWatt sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (December 16th,
EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Thursday, December 17th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint201512mw.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

Come join us and have a real good time!

# 2414. Re: [cw_bugs] Need parts for 1951 Champion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-16 03:20:43 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2412  Message: 2414

Go to most fleamarkets, you will find real parts on a Champion for $50.00.

73

DR
On Dec 15, 2015 9:29 AM, "mtnest@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I've recently acquired a 1951 Vibroplex Champion in fair but restorable
> shape. Although most of it's parts are still there, it's missing the entire
> arm and weight assembly (parts #10 and #13 on the factory parts list).
>
>
> So, I'm looking for a replacement .....or a drawing with dimensions
> ....or just the dimensions and I'll fabricate one. I don't intend to
> restore this key to absolute factory original but would like it to look
> original to the casual observer.
>
>
> Thanks for any help,
>
>
> Merry Christmas and 73
>
> Tom Warren
>
> W4TMW
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2415. Re: [cw_bugs] Need parts for 1951 Champion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-17 03:40:52 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2412  Message: 2415

DR.....

Thanks for the suggestion, I'll keep that in mind during my research.

73
Tom

# 2416. Re: [cw_bugs] Need parts for 1951 Champion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-17 03:57:03 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2412  Message: 2416

Remember that Lightning Bug, Zephyr, and Champion all used the same lever, mainspring, pendulem, dot spring assembly, and weight.

That being said if you find a Zephyr, restore that instead because, it is a unique key having a narrower base, and it has a shorting switch for landline use (or transmitter tuning in the amateur station).

It might be easier to just buy a battered key for the parts as keys with ruined bases are common and demand small dollars or "take it away" for free.

David
On Dec 16, 2015 10:40 PM, "mtnest@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> DR.....
>
> Thanks for the suggestion, I'll keep that in mind during my research.
>
> 73
> Tom
>
>
>
>
>

# 2417. Re: [cw_bugs] Need parts for 1951 Champion

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-18 03:24:17 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2412  Message: 2417

DR.....

That reply answers some questions I had, especially the interchangeability of the arms. Great
info to have.

Thanks a million.

73
Tom
W4TMW

# 2418. Tonight is the Christmas RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-20 17:13:56 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2418  Message: 2418

Sunday night is the Decemberr 2015 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

A friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

On behelf of the Flying Pigs, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2419. Over priced bug weight on Ebay

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2015-12-22 22:25:34 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2419  Message: 2419

This guy must thing we're suckers. $15 for a stair gauge that you can buy at Home Depot or Lowes for $2 each.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-And-Flat-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303

W8HOG Bug Zapper Brass Weight - Fits Vibroplex Rou... http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-And-Flat-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303 For sale is a new W8HOG Bug Zapper that Fits Vibroplex Round And Flat Shaft Bugs. The BUG ZAPPER slows Vibroplex Bugs down so they are much easier to ...

View on www.ebay.com http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-And-Flat-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303
Preview by Yahoo

W8HOG Bug Zapper Brass Weight - Fits Vibroplex Round And Flat Shaft Keyers http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-And-Flat-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303?

Lowes

Shop Swanson Tool Company 2-Pack Brass Stair Gauge at Lowes.com
http://www.lowes.com/pd_119306-1099-SG0020_0__?productId=3009735

Shop Swanson Tool Company 2-Pack Brass Stair Gauge at Lowes.com
http://www.lowes.com/pd_119306-1099-SG0020_0__?productId=3009735 Find Swanson Tool Company 2-Pack Brass Stair Gauge at Lowes.com. Lowes offers a variety of quality home improvement products that are available for purchase online or in store.

View on www.lowes.com http://www.lowes.com/pd_119306-1099-SG0020_0__?productId=3009735
Preview by Yahoo

Steve N4LQ

# 2420. NAQCC 160 Meter Sprint Tuessday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-11 00:54:13 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2420  Message: 2420

The January special 160 Meters Sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (January 12th,
EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Wednesday, January 13th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201601_160.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

Come join us and have a real good time!

# 2421. French bug : the VIBRO MORS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-12 16:35:14 UTC
From: f9wtchristian@...
Topic: 2421  Message: 2421
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello dear OM,

If you don't know the alone bug made in France, the VIBRO MORS ( 1950's), you can look it on my site :

http://f9wtchris.wix.com/manipulateursmorse#!/c1unh
http://f9wtchris.wix.com/manipulateursmorse#!/c1unh

73 from France.

Chris F9WT

# 2422. Re: [cw_bugs] French bug : the VIBRO MORS [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-12 22:15:51 UTC
From: F5NFB
Topic: 2421  Message: 2422

Good evening everybody and happy new year for all OM in the group.
The VIBROMORS is a very good bug. I have one and it's a great pleasure
to send in morse code with it.
The only difficulty is to adjust it properly... hours and hours of work.
I only changed the weight for to slow down it's speed. I found one on
the vibroplex website and i adapted it to the vibromors.
73.

Le 12/01/2016 17:35, f9wtchristian@... [cw_bugs] a écrit :
> [Attachment(s) <#TopText> from f9wtchristian@... [cw_bugs]
> included below]
>
> Hello dear OM,
>
>
> If you don't know the alone bug made in France, the VIBRO MORS (
> 1950's), you can look it on my site :
>
> http://f9wtchris.wix.com/manipulateursmorse#!/c1unh
> <http://f9wtchris.wix.com/manipulateursmorse#%21/c1unh>
>
>
> 73 from France.
>
>
> Chris F9WT
>
>
>
>
>

--
73 à tous. Joël - F5NFB

# 2423. Tonight is the January RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-17 15:28:34 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2423  Message: 2423

Sunday night is the January 2016 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

Happy New Year!

A friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

Beginning thsi month, 1st 2nd and 3rd place certificates will be e-mailed to the Top Three placeholders!

And for 2016 - we will be taking attendance! All those who participate in all 12 RFTBs (no matter your score) for 2016 will earn a special "Piggie Memento" at the end pf the year. So make sure to join in the fun and make sure to enter your score in the Autolog!

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2424. NAQCC Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-20 00:20:29 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2397  Message: 2424

The January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (January 20th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, Janaury 21st, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201601.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2425. NAQCC Sprint this WEDNESDAY Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-01-20 00:21:23 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2425  Message: 2425

The January sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (January 20th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, Janaury 21st, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201601.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2426. NAQCC February Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-08 23:41:28 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2426  Message: 2426

The February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 9th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, February 10th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201602.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2427. Re: [cw_bugs] NAQCC February Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-08 23:50:01 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2426  Message: 2427

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC MECHANICAL BUG KEYS?

BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Feb 8, 2016 at 5:41 PM, 'Larry W2LJ' w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> The February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February
> 9th,
> EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST -
> 5:30-7:30PM),
> which translates as Wednesday, February 10th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.
>
> For all the "official" information, please go to:
>
> http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201602.html
>
> There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other
> important
> information.
>
> Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and
> DX
> for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score
> in the
> GAIN antenna category.
>
> Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.
>
> This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer,
> straight
> key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but
> you
> must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
>
> If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other
> sprints
> running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the
> newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many
> veteran
> contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to
> help
> you make your contacts.
>
> If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your
> chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have

> 7100+
> members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the
> NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome
> certificate,
> with your membership number on it, which is good for life.
>
> Come join us and have a real good time!
>
>
> 72/73 de Larry W2LJ
> NAQCC #35
>
> for NAQCC
> http://naqcc.info/
>
> ---
>
> ---
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 2428. Re: [cw_bugs] NAQCC February Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-09 02:13:12 UTC
From: LARRY MAKOSKI
Topic: 2426  Message: 2428

There is a category for participants that use a bug. So this is a sprint that should be of interest to bug afficianados.
If you feel these posts are an intrusion upon your email reflector, I will be more than happy to stop posting them.
Larry W2LJ

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Mon, Feb 8, 2016 at 6:50 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC MECHANICAL BUG KEYS?

BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Feb 8, 2016 at 5:41 PM, 'Larry W2LJ' w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

The February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 9th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, February 10th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201602.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the

NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

---

---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

# 2429. Re: [cw_bugs] NAQCC February Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-09 02:36:57 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2426  Message: 2429

I HAD NO CLUE THERE WAS A CONTEST WITH A BUG CATEGORY! I OPERATED THE FOC MARATHON THIS PAST WEEKEND USING ONLY BUGS. MY ONLY CONTEST LIKE EVENT. YOU MAY HAVE FOUND AN INTERESTED PARTY. NOT A CONTEST FAN BUT A BIG BUG FAN.

TO EDUCATE OTHERS, MAYBE YOU COULD ADD A LINE ABOUT THE BUG CATEGORY ON FUTURE POSTS.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Feb 8, 2016 at 8:13 PM, LARRY MAKOSKI w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> There is a category for participants that use a bug. So this is a sprint
> that should be of interest to bug afficianados.
>
> If you feel these posts are an intrusion upon your email reflector, I will
> be more than happy to stop posting them.
>
> Larry W2LJ
>
> Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
> <https://overview.mail.yahoo.com/mobile/?.src=Android>
>
>
>
> WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH SEMI-AUTOMATIC MECHANICAL BUG KEYS?
>
> BENNY K5KV
>
> On Mon, Feb 8, 2016 at 5:41 PM, 'Larry W2LJ' w2lj@... [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>> The February sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February
>> 9th,
>> EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST -
>> 5:30-7:30PM),
>> which translates as Wednesday, February 10th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.
>>
>> For all the "official" information, please go to:
>>
>> http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201602.html
>>

>> There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other
>> important
>> information.
>>
>> Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE
>> and DX
>> for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score
>> in the
>> GAIN antenna category.
>>
>> Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.
>>
>> This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer,
>> straight
>> key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but
>> you
>> must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.
>>
>> If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other
>> sprints
>> running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the
>> newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many
>> veteran
>> contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed
>> to help
>> you make your contacts.
>>
>> If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is
>> your
>> chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have
>> 7100+
>> members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the
>> NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome
>> certificate,
>> with your membership number on it, which is good for life.
>>
>> Come join us and have a real good time!
>>
>>
>> 72/73 de Larry W2LJ
>> NAQCC #35
>>
>> for NAQCC
>> http://naqcc.info/
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>> ------------------------------------
>>
>>

```
>> -----------------------------------
>>
>> Yahoo Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>>
>
>
```

# 2430. Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 04:14:38 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2430  Message: 2430

Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings freely. Just wondering if there is another method.

Gary, NA6O

# 2431. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 04:22:27 UTC
From: Lee
Topic: 2430  Message: 2431

You adjust the pinion up and own with both screw adjustments. You not only want to take out the slack, but you want the contact points to be at the correct height. The pinions are thus adjusted for contact point height as well as for no slack.

Lee, w0vt

On 2/10/2016 10:14 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled
> bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom
> adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings
> freely. Just wondering if there is another method.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>
>

# 2432. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 10:00:26 UTC
From: Mort
Topic: 2430  Message: 2432

Reference: Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings freely. Just wondering if there is another method.

It's the way I adjust mine. How else could it be done, apart from getting someone else to do it ?

Even better, if U can afford it, get a McElroy, it is the Mercedes of keys, whereas Vibroplex is the Lada

73 - Mort, G2JL

# 2433. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 12:25:39 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2430  Message: 2433

I own Macs and Vibroplexes.  My favorites are all among the Vibroplexes.K4oso

# 2434. RE: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 14:35:03 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2430  Message: 2434
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

The first jeweled bearings in the forties were made using natural garnets. They also had adjustments top and bottom. SOMEbody almost always tightened down the top adjustment enough to shatter the garnet making the bug useless.

Vibroplex learned the lesson the hard way, and changed it so that it could only be adjusted from the bottom so that novices couldn't readily "screw-around" with it. They also changed over to the harder synthetic ruby, less likely to shatter. Without the upper adjustment, though, you don't get to raise or lower the lever arm.

Personally, I have never been able to sense any difference between the jeweled mount and a metal trunion. They never did incorporate the spring loaded trunion which could have allowed one to completely remove any slop in the bearing at all.

73, Fred kt5x

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 3:00 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

□

Reference: Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings freely. Just wondering if there is another method.

It's the way I adjust mine. How else could it be done, apart from getting someone else to do it ?

Even better, if U can afford it, get a McElroy, it is the Mercedes of keys, whereas Vibroplex is the Lada

73 - Mort, G2JL

# 2435. Re: Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 16:03:38 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2430  Message: 2435

Hi, Gary -

Just a few words from Elmer Fudd: "Be vewy caweful!"

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 2436. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 16:59:07 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2430  Message: 2436

I AGREE WITH MILT. I HAVE OWNED BOTH AND PREFER VIBROPLEX AND TAC BUGS OVER MAC.

I ALSO AGREE WITH FRED THAT THE JEWELLED BEARINGS DONT MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE. I HAVE A 54 PRESENTATION AND A 62 ORIGINAL ON THE DESK NOW. CANT TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

NO ONE MENTIONS IT BUT THE JEWELS ARE ON THE DIT MOTION. IF THEY WERE NEEDED IT IS ON THE DAH MOTION.

I TOO ADJUST FOR VERY LITTLE OR NO VERTICAL MOTION BUT NOT TOO TIGHT TO LIMIT SIDEWAYS MOTION. CONTACT ALIGNMENT METHODS ARE DIFFERENT FOR DELUXE OR STANDARD BUGS.

GOOD LUCK 73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 6:25 AM, k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I own Macs and Vibroplexes. My favorites are all among the Vibroplexes.
> K4oso
>
>
>

# 2437. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 17:10:47 UTC
From: Leslie Hock
Topic: 2430  Message: 2437

I also have a MAC but I prefer either my Blue Racer or Zephyr from Vibroplex. Maybe I just like the names but there it is. I also have my Delux Original with the Vibroplex DIT tamer that I use below 20. Like all my bugs and can't really tell much difference between my WW2 era Lionel and any of the other Vibroplex or the MAC. The biggest thing I notice is the amount of movement on the key base during use. On the narrow bases I have to rest a finger on the base to keep it steady. All my keys are on the "no slip" shelf liner stuff but the Zephyr and Blue Racer still try to move. They also have a faster "top end" but since I can't do any better than about 25 wpm it doesn't matter to me.

Les

Leslie Hock
WB5JWI
SKCC 5013 T
wb5jwi@...
lhock@comcast.net

> On Feb 11, 2016, at 10:59, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
> I AGREE WITH MILT. I HAVE OWNED BOTH AND PREFER VIBROPLEX AND TAC BUGS OVER MAC.
>
> I ALSO AGREE WITH FRED THAT THE JEWELLED BEARINGS DONT MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE. I HAVE A 54 PRESENTATION AND A 62 ORIGINAL ON THE DESK NOW. CANT TELL THE DIFFERENCE.
>
> NO ONE MENTIONS IT BUT THE JEWELS ARE ON THE DIT MOTION. IF THEY WERE NEEDED IT IS ON THE DAH MOTION.
>
> I TOO ADJUST FOR VERY LITTLE OR NO VERTICAL MOTION BUT NOT TOO TIGHT TO LIMIT SIDEWAYS MOTION. CONTACT ALIGNMENT METHODS ARE DIFFERENT FOR DELUXE OR STANDARD BUGS.
>
> GOOD LUCK 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
> On Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 6:25 AM, k4oso k4oso@... <mailto:k4oso@aol.com> [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
> I own Macs and Vibroplexes. My favorites are all among the Vibroplexes.
>
> K4oso
>
>
>
>

# 2438. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 19:50:23 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2430  Message: 2438

Thanks for the advice, guys. I figured there would be no official document published. Logic and care shall prevail in this adjustment, after replacing the shattered jewels. (I'm doing some restoration for N6RO.)

I have a 63 Presentation, and also a 38 Mac Deluxe. Still not sure which I like best. Both have new feet, but the Mac really stays put. Either can be adjusted well enough, and both are better than the opr ;-) Definitely need to get them on the air more.

Gary, NA6O

# 2439. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 20:12:27 UTC
From: k8mfo@...
Topic: 2430 Message: 2439

Thankfully, just like automobiles, there are MANY different makers of bugs. I have a fairly large collection here, from at least 25 makers. First of all, there is no such thing as a BAD bug - even the Bunnell Gold Bug and the Signal Electric Sematic have their good points. The key is to let them "lead" and not force them to be "something they're not" ...

My personal favorites would include the McElroy S-600 Super Stream speed - it's as smooth as anything I've ever seen, and one always sits on my desk. It is a thing of beauty. Another would be the Wilson SA-100 which has a touch of Speed X and a touch of McElroy in it's elegant design. Wilson made the same bug for the RCAF in WWII with a military ID -- the company was located in Toronto. ... The plain old Lionel J-36 is also a favorite .. AND you have not lived until you've used a Dow-Key Universal, with the yoke tilted 30 degrees to the left. It's a HOOT to make your dits "going uphill", and quality dahs "going downhill! I do not generally care for Vibroplex bugs, unless they were made before 1930. Again, a personal preference. I like LOTS of bugs.

Not long ago there was a thread here about the French VIBRO MORS, one of which I have. A few years back my friend Yann - F5LAW and I pulled out our VIBRO MORS bugs and had a 2 way QSO. How often do you suppose that happens? Fred - KT5X and I likewise had a 2 way while using our STANDARD RADIO bugs, perhaps the first of those in decades.

Again, to each their own - there should be a bug to please everyone!

73

Don K8MFO Same call since 1958

In a message dated 2/11/2016 11:59:20 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I AGREE WITH MILT. I HAVE OWNED BOTH AND PREFER VIBROPLEX AND TAC BUGS OVER MAC.

I ALSO AGREE WITH FRED THAT THE JEWELLED BEARINGS DONT MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE. I HAVE A 54 PRESENTATION AND A 62 ORIGINAL ON THE DESK NOW. CANT TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

NO ONE MENTIONS IT BUT THE JEWELS ARE ON THE DIT MOTION. IF THEY WERE NEEDED IT IS ON THE DAH MOTION.

I TOO ADJUST FOR VERY LITTLE OR NO VERTICAL MOTION BUT NOT TOO TIGHT TO LIMIT SIDEWAYS MOTION. CONTACT ALIGNMENT METHODS ARE DIFFERENT FOR DELUXE OR STANDARD BUGS.

GOOD LUCK 73

BENNY K5KV

On Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 6:25 AM, k4oso _k4oso@...m_ (mailto:k4oso@...) [cw_bugs] <_cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com_ (mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com) > wrote:

I own Macs and Vibroplexes. My favorites are all among the Vibroplexes.
K4oso

# 2440. RE: [cw_bugs] Re: Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-11 20:56:55 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2430  Message: 2440

Hi, Gary -

Just a few words from Elmer Fudd: "Be vewy caweful!"

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

Good one, Rich!

And I owe you a bug to bug QSO from a mtn top. Might be able to get up a nearby peak tomorrow if you would be around, perhaps 1800z? WX forecast here is very darned good.

K8MFO ... you have a wonderful collection! Enjoyed our Standard Radio match up, 1,500 of them were made in 1943 by special request of the Army Air Corps. Those bugs had no label, and most were so distressed from rust having been used in the Pacific Theater that they were tossed after the war. Another 150 were made with labels and serial numbered from about 1,500-1,650, I have no idea why or for whom. Some of the bugs use parts directly from Vibroplex, so the theory is this "company" was formed to fill this order, then disbanded. No advertisement for them has ever been found.

73, Fred KT5X

# 2441. Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-22 16:50:07 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2441  Message: 2441

Hi,
I have a Les Logan Speed-X Model 500 that I recently bought because I like to try different bugs to see how they operate and never had one of these. I am still learning to use a bug and really don't know a lot about them, but I find that I still prefer the old Vibroplex Standard for now.

I'm going to move this on to someone else to try if they'd like. It is in decent condition for it's age. It has two "mods" if you will that I can readily notice from the pictures I've seen of this model online. It has a third post mounted between the two terminals that connect to the radio.. It was used to hold a strain relief on the wedge cord that was attached, and the other difference is that the dash finger piece was replaced with a round type that is more common on the Vibroplex bugs.

If anyone is interested I can send several pictures

you can contact me direct at nz8j@woh.rr.com

Thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2442. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-22 18:08:01 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2441  Message: 2442

I have a SpeedX 501 and a 550.  I set both up like a Vibroplex, have used both for a few hours as a bug and find them comparable to Vibroplex of which I have 1921 through a recent Annie.  I like them both.  I am not sure, but the 501 is chromed and I am thinking that the 500 is the same T type that is painted rather than chromed.  My 550 is not the T frame and is black crackle painted.  Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,SKCC 4077S
From: "nz8j@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 10:50 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Hi,I have a Les Logan Speed-X Model 500 that I recently bought because I like to try different  bugs to see how they operate and never had one of these. I am still learning to use a bug and really don't know a lot about them, but I find that I still prefer the old Vibroplex Standard for now.
I'm going to move this on to someone else to try if they'd like. It is in decent condition for it's age. It has two "mods" if you will that I can readily notice from the pictures I've seen of this model online. It has a third post mounted between the two terminals that connect to the radio.. It was used to hold a strain relief on the wedge cord that was attached, and the other difference is that the dash finger piece was replaced with a round type that is more common on the Vibroplex bugs.
If anyone is interested  I can send several pictures
you can contact me direct at nz8j@...
ThanksTimNZ8J

# 2443. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-22 18:10:35 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2441  Message: 2443

Hello Tim,

The Les Logan 500 bugs are sweet senders. Maybe dirt prevents it from being an excellent key. I still go back to my Vibroplex Original also.

Often they get dirty and need to be cleaned, sometimes the connections get loose --- the Vibroplex's negative terminal connection is one especially troublesome place as it can appear tight on the top, but actually, it's loose underneath.

Some bug tips are here in my old gopher hole:

*Gopher Hole:* gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/ (native or with Firefox's Overbite extension) or via http to gopher gatewa <http://gopher.floodgap.com/gopher/gw?gopher://sdf.org/1/users/djringjr/>y

It's all text and jpg in gopher land.

Gopher preceded http.

73

David N1EA

Hi,
I have a Les Logan Speed-X Model 500 that I recently bought because I like to try different bugs to see how they operate and never had one of these. I am still learning to use a bug and really don't know a lot about them, but I find that I still prefer the old Vibroplex Standard for now.

I'm going to move this on to someone else to try if they'd like. It is in decent condition for it's age. It has two "mods" if you will that I can readily notice from the pictures I've seen of this model online. It has a third post mounted between the two terminals that connect to the radio.. It was used to hold a strain relief on the wedge cord that was attached, and the other difference is that the dash finger piece was replaced with a round type that is more common on the Vibroplex bugs.

If anyone is interested I can send several pictures

you can contact me direct at nz8j@...

Thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2444. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-22 21:08:41 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2441  Message: 2444

Yes, the 500 is a T type with a black crackle painted base.
thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2445. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-22 21:10:19 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2441  Message: 2445

Thanks for the tips David, maybe all it needs is some cleaning although it seemed to send ok, I just preferred the Original.. hard to explain what I find to be different though..

73
Tim
NZ8J

# 2446. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-23 19:13:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2441  Message: 2446

I have a bunch of bugs, the Les Logan Speed-X along with Vibroplex Deluxe Lightning Bug, McElroy Deluxe (with the pretensioners that eliminate sparky dots), Vibroplex Blue Racer (a speedy key) are all eventually in the second tier of keys, while my sea going Original and pretty Vibroplex Presentation with the adjustable mainspring always end up on the desktop as my favorite bugs. All of these bugs are equipped with dot pre tensioners or dot stabilizers made by Jim Sheldon, W0EB (W0EB@...) or in the case of the McElroy were factory supplied. The Original has less speed range than the Blue Racer which can slow down to about 22 wpm. Only the Presentation and Lightning Bug of the keys mentioned can send slightly below 20 wpm.

The Presentation can be adjusted to be as fast as a Blue Racer or even slower than the Lightning Bug assembled type bugs.

A good cleaning should be done every few years, eliminating accumulation of dander in the trunion bearings.

73
David N1EA

Thanks for the tips David, maybe all it needs is some cleaning although it seemed to send ok, I just preferred the Original.. hard to explain what I find to be different though..

73
Tim
NZ8J

# 2447. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-23 19:31:07 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2441  Message: 2447

David,Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner?  And why?73, Milt k5oso-------- Original message --------From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 2/23/2016 2:13 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

I have a bunch of bugs, the Les Logan Speed-X along with Vibroplex Deluxe Lightning Bug, McElroy Deluxe (with the pretensioners that eliminate sparky dots), Vibroplex Blue Racer (a speedy key) are all eventually in the second tier of keys, while my sea going Original and pretty Vibroplex Presentation with the adjustable mainspring always end up on the desktop as my favorite bugs.  All of these bugs are equipped with dot pre tensioners or dot stabilizers made by Jim Sheldon, W0EB (W0EB@cox.net) or in the case of the McElroy were factory supplied.  The Original has less speed range than the Blue Racer which can slow down to about 22 wpm.  Only the Presentation and Lightning Bug of the keys mentioned can send slightly below 20 wpm.
The Presentation can be adjusted to be as fast as a Blue Racer or even slower than the Lightning Bug assembled type bugs.
A good cleaning should be done every few years, eliminating accumulation of dander in the trunion bearings.
73

David N1EA

Thanks for the tips David, maybe all it needs is some cleaning although it seemed to send ok, I just preferred the Original.. hard to explain what I find to be different though..
73TimNZ8J

# 2448. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-23 23:59:29 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2441  Message: 2448

MILT ET AL

I PREFER THE BRASS ONES. I HAD AN ALUMINIUM ONE STRIP OUT.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 1:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> David,
> Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner? And why?
> 73, Milt k5oso
> -------- Original message --------
> From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]" <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Date: 2/23/2016 2:13 PM (GMT-05:00)
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X
>
>
>
> I have a bunch of bugs, the Les Logan Speed-X along with Vibroplex Deluxe
> Lightning Bug, McElroy Deluxe (with the pretensioners that eliminate sparky
> dots), Vibroplex Blue Racer (a speedy key) are all eventually in the second
> tier of keys, while my sea going Original and pretty Vibroplex Presentation
> with the adjustable mainspring always end up on the desktop as my favorite
> bugs. All of these bugs are equipped with dot pre tensioners or dot
> stabilizers made by Jim Sheldon, W0EB (W0EB@...) or in the case of
> the McElroy were factory supplied. The Original has less speed range than
> the Blue Racer which can slow down to about 22 wpm. Only the Presentation
> and Lightning Bug of the keys mentioned can send slightly below 20 wpm.
>
> The Presentation can be adjusted to be as fast as a Blue Racer or even
> slower than the Lightning Bug assembled type bugs.
>
> A good cleaning should be done every few years, eliminating accumulation
> of dander in the trunion bearings.
>
> 73
> David N1EA
>
>
>

> Thanks for the tips David, maybe all it needs is some cleaning although it
> seemed to send ok, I just preferred the Original.. hard to explain what I
> find to be different though..
>
> 73
> Tim
> NZ8J
>
>
>
>

# 2449. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 00:08:43 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2441  Message: 2449

Thanks, Benny!-------- Original message --------From: "Benny Owens k5kvm5@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 2/23/2016 6:59 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

MILT ET AL

I PREFER THE BRASS ONES.  I HAD AN ALUMINIUM ONE STRIP OUT.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 1:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

David,Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner?  And why?73, Milt k5oso-------- Original message --------From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 2/23/2016 2:13 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

I have a bunch of bugs, the Les Logan Speed-X along with Vibroplex Deluxe Lightning Bug, McElroy Deluxe (with the pretensioners that eliminate sparky dots), Vibroplex Blue Racer (a speedy key) are all eventually in the second tier of keys, while my sea going Original and pretty Vibroplex Presentation with the adjustable mainspring always end up on the desktop as my favorite bugs.  All of these bugs are equipped with dot pre tensioners or dot stabilizers made by Jim Sheldon, W0EB (W0EB@cox.net) or in the case of the McElroy were factory supplied.  The Original has less speed range than the Blue Racer which can slow down to about 22 wpm.  Only the Presentation and Lightning Bug of the keys mentioned can send slightly below 20 wpm.
The Presentation can be adjusted to be as fast as a Blue Racer or even slower than the Lightning Bug assembled type bugs.
A good cleaning should be done every few years, eliminating accumulation of dander in the trunion bearings.
73

David N1EA

Thanks for the tips David, maybe all it needs is some cleaning although it seemed to send ok, I just preferred the Original.. hard to explain what I find to be different though..
73TimNZ8J

# 2450. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 01:30:55 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2441  Message: 2450

I think the Lightning Bug / Zepher / Champion type for the flat bar bugs can only be made with brass, but other wise, I went for the color match.

I had a Olympic dual lever key with a lot of brass, I went with brass pretensioner.

I have a McElroy S600 Teardrop shaped bug and it's all chrome so I went with the aluminum.

I just matched colors.

73

DR

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 2:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
>
> David,
> Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner? And why?
> 73, Milt k5oso
>
>

# 2451. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 14:40:09 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2441  Message: 2451

Hi David,Just FYI..I contacted Jim Shelton.  He now only makes the pretensioner in aluminum AND his price has gone up by 25%!I fumbled around and discovered I get wonderful pretensioning  results on my Lightning Bug by simply wrapping one turn of painters tape (the Blue stuff) around the dot spring.  Who knew??  I was willing to spend $20 but, $25 seems to have crossed my threshold.Hope all is well with you.  All is peachy keen up here on the hill.161 Milt k4oso-------- Original message --------From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 2/23/2016 8:30 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

I think the Lightning Bug / Zepher / Champion type for the flat bar bugs can only be made with brass, but other wise, I went for the color match.

I had a Olympic dual lever key with a lot of brass, I went with brass pretensioner.

I have a McElroy S600 Teardrop shaped bug and it's all chrome so I went with the aluminum.

I just matched colors.

73

DR

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 2:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

David,Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner?  And why?73, Milt k5oso

# 2452. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 15:47:28 UTC
From: Mort
Topic: 2441  Message: 2452

I learned about pretensioners only recently. As a penurious cheapskate, I tried the idea with bent copper wire, on two Vibroplexes & a McElroy. Not pretty, but perfectly adequate & functional.

73 - Mort, G2JL

# 2453. Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 18:27:11 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2453  Message: 2453

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.
Thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2454. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 18:34:38 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2453  Message: 2454

Tim,
Here is the link I use:
http://vibroplexcollector.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/WW7P-Serial-Number-List.pdf

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:27 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

# 2455. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 18:57:40 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 2453  Message: 2455

It seems to me a mistake.
Are you sure about the "8"?
I suppose it is a "3", so S/N 391,036 (1979 Portland, ME).

73 Fabio, IK0IXI
www.ik0ixi.it

----- Original Message -----
From: 'Troy, W6HV' w6hv@... [cw_bugs]
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:34 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Tim,
Here is the link I use:
http://vibroplexcollector.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/WW7P-Serial-Number-List.pdf

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:27 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

# 2456. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 19:27:15 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2453  Message: 2456

I suspected the same thing, I saw a picture of the bug, I couldn't see the serial number but I could see part of the ID plate and I'm pretty sure it said Broadway, NY. I should have it in a couple days and I'll be able to verify it then. I just didn't know if there was some other list that had serial numbers in that range.

I'm sure I'll be back with more questions.

Thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2457. Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-24 19:50:44 UTC
From: Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI
Topic: 2453  Message: 2457

A Champion with gray base is from '50es to the end of production (late 1980).
Last production saw some color variation (Sienna).
When standard base color changed from black to gray (mid '50es) the SN range was 18x.xxx and late SN was 391,230 (Portland, ME).
Also when the factory was in Portland, ME (1979), the nameplate used the Broadway address till 1980.

So I guess "3" is the first number, so a late model made in 1979 at Portland using the Broadway nameplate.

73 Fabio, IK0IXI
www.ik0ixi.it

----- Original Message -----
From: nz8j@... [cw_bugs]
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:27 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I suspected the same thing, I saw a picture of the bug, I couldn't see the serial number but I could see part of the ID plate and I'm pretty sure it said Broadway, NY. I should have it in a couple days and I'll be able to verify it then. I just didn't know if there was some other list that had serial numbers in that range.

I'm sure I'll be back with more questions.

Thanks
Tim
NZ8J

# 2458. Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-27 13:18:35 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2453  Message: 2458

Well I got the bug yesterday and have the answer to a couple of my questions. First of all the serial number is 391036 and the serial number plate is stamped as such. Now for some strange issues.

The original box has the Vibroplex white label with the blue lettering on it. The model is stamped " CHAMPION MODEL", the base entry is blank, NO. is handwritten as 91036. The label on the box has the Portland Maine address.

The plate on the bug has the stamped serial number as 391056, BUT even though it's the same size and font, the 3 is stamped just slightly lighter and looks like it was possibly not stamped at the same time. The plate on the bug says Broadway NY and is the adhesive one, not riveted. Also it is located under the center arm and not in the upper left corner looking straight down from the front of the bug. The pics I've seen showed the champion models with the label in that location. I guess given its not riveted it could have been moved for some reason. I had a set of Vibroplex iambic paddles in the 80's or 90's that had the adhesive label it it kept coming loose.

I know this is a lot about nothing..I'm just always curious about things that don't follow conventional wisdom hi hi.

It looks and works well, that's the main thing...I do find the slowest speed is quite a bit faster than my original.

Thanks for the previous info..

73
Tim
NZ8J

# 2459. 51 Lefty Presentation

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-02-27 19:29:37 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2459  Message: 2459

Someone has a 1951 Left handed Presentation on Ebay
73Pete W5PEH
Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Date: 25/02/2016 02:53 (GMT-06:00)
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Digest Number 901

```
<!--

#ygrp-mkp {
border: 1px solid #d8d8d8;
font-family: Arial;
margin: 10px 0;
padding: 0 10px;
}

#ygrp-mkp hr {
border: 1px solid #d8d8d8;
}

#ygrp-mkp #hd {
color: #628c2a;
font-size: 85%;
font-weight: 700;
line-height: 122%;
margin: 10px 0;
}

#ygrp-mkp #ads {
margin-bottom: 10px;
}

#ygrp-mkp .ad {
padding: 0 0;
}

#ygrp-mkp .ad p {
margin: 0;
}

#ygrp-mkp .ad a {
color: #0000ff;
text-decoration: none;
}
```

```
#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc {
font-family: Arial;
}

#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc #hd {
margin: 10px 0px;
font-weight: 700;
font-size: 78%;
line-height: 122%;
}

#ygrp-sponsor #ygrp-lc .ad {
margin-bottom: 10px;
padding: 0 0;
}
-->
```

CW BUGS

CW BUGS Group

7
Messages

Digest #901

1a

Re: Les Logan Speed-X

by
"k4oso"
k4oso

1b

Re: Les Logan Speed-X

by
"Mort"
mort.g2jl

2a

Vibroplex Champion Ser#

by
nz8j

2b

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

by
"Troy, W6HV"
w6hv

2c

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

by
"Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI"
inorc462

2d

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

by
nz8j

2e

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

by
"Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI"
inorc462

Messages

1a

Re: Les Logan Speed-X

Wed Feb 24, 2016 6:40 am (PST) . Posted by:

"k4oso" k4oso

Hi David,Just FYI..I contacted Jim Shelton.  He now only makes the pretensioner in aluminum AND his price has gone up by 25%!I fumbled around and discovered I get wonderful pretensioning  results on my Lightning Bug by simply wrapping one turn of painters tape (the Blue stuff) around the dot spring.  Who knew??  I was willing to spend $20 but, $25 seems to have crossed my threshold.Hope all is well with you.  All is peachy keen up here on the hill.161 Milt k4oso-------- Original message --------From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@arrl.net [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 2/23/2016 8:30 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

I think the Lightning Bug / Zepher / Champion type for the flat bar bugs can only be made with brass, but other wise, I went for the color match.

I had a Olympic dual lever key with a lot of brass, I went with brass pretensioner.

I have a McElroy S600 Teardrop shaped bug and it's all chrome so I went with the aluminum.

I just matched colors.

73

DR

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 2:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

David,Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner?  And why?73, Milt k5oso

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (12)

.

Top ^

1b

Re: Les Logan Speed-X

Wed Feb 24, 2016 7:57 am (PST) . Posted by:

"Mort" mort.g2jl

I learned about pretensioners only recently. As a penurious cheapskate, I tried the idea with bent copper wire, on two Vibroplexes & a McElroy. Not pretty, but perfectly adequate & functional.

73 - Mort, G2JL

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (12)

.

Top ^

2a

Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Wed Feb 24, 2016 10:27 am (PST) . Posted by:

nz8j

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (5)

.

Top ^

2b

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Wed Feb 24, 2016 10:34 am (PST) . Posted by:

"Troy, W6HV" w6hv

Tim,

Here is the link I use:

http://vibroplexcollector.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/WW7P-Serial-Number-List.pdf

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:27 AM

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (5)

.

Top ^

2c

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Wed Feb 24, 2016 10:57 am (PST) . Posted by:

"Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI" inorc462

It seems to me a mistake.

Are you sure about the "8"?

I suppose it is a "3", so S/N 391,036 (1979 Portland, ME).

73 Fabio, IK0IXI

www.ik0ixi.it

----- Original Message -----

From: 'Troy, W6HV' w6hv@verizon.net [cw_bugs]

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:34 PM

Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Tim,

Here is the link I use:

http://vibroplexcollector.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/WW7P-Serial-Number-List.pdf

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:27 AM

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I'm getting a Vibroplex Champion (at least that's what I think it is from the pics) I'm trying to find the approximate age of it, I'm told the serial number is 891036. I checked all the lists and nothing I can find shows a serial number even close to being that high. It is a grey base Champion. I won't have it for a couple days to verify the serial number but thought I would ask here.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (5)

.

Top ^

2d

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Wed Feb 24, 2016 11:27 am (PST) . Posted by:

nz8j

I suspected the same thing, I saw a picture of the bug, I couldn't see the serial number but I could see part of the ID plate and I'm pretty sure it said Broadway, NY. I should have it in a couple days and I'll be able to verify it then. I just didn't know if there was some other list that had serial numbers in that range.

I'm sure I'll be back with more questions.

Thanks

Tim

NZ8J

Reply to sender

.

Reply to group

.

Reply via Web Post

.

All Messages (5)

.

Top ^

2e

Re: Vibroplex Champion Ser#

Wed Feb 24, 2016 11:50 am (PST) . Posted by:

"Fabio Bonucci, IK0IXI" inorc462

A Champion with gray base is from '50es to the end of production (late 1980).

Last production saw some color variation (Sienna).

When standard base color changed from black to gray (mid '50es) the SN range was 18x.xxx and late SN was 391,230 (Portland, ME).

Also when the factory was in Portland, ME (1979), the nameplate used the Broadway address till 1980.

So I guess "3" is the first number, so a late model made in 1979 at Portland using the Broadway nameplate.

73 Fabio, IK0IXI

www.ik0ixi.it

----- Original Message -----

From: nz8j@woh.rr.com [cw_bugs]

To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 8:27 PM

Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Vibroplex Champion Ser#

I suspected the same thing, I saw a pictur

# 2460. Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-03 03:33:44 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2441  Message: 2460

I saw your email just today and by accident.

All is well, my dad WA1DRR just had his 91st birthday.

Keep those bugs working!

73

David
On Feb 24, 2016 9:40 AM, "k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hi David,
> Just FYI..I contacted Jim Shelton. He now only makes the pretensioner in
> aluminum AND his price has gone up by 25%!
> I fumbled around and discovered I get wonderful pretensioning results on
> my Lightning Bug by simply wrapping one turn of painters tape (the Blue
> stuff) around the dot spring. Who knew?? I was willing to spend $20 but,
> $25 seems to have crossed my threshold.
> Hope all is well with you. All is peachy keen up here on the hill.
> 161 Milt k4oso
> -------- Original message --------
> From: "'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]" <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Date: 2/23/2016 8:30 PM (GMT-05:00)
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Les Logan Speed-X
>
>
>
> I think the Lightning Bug / Zepher / Champion type for the flat bar bugs
> can only be made with brass, but other wise, I went for the color match.
>
> I had a Olympic dual lever key with a lot of brass, I went with brass
> pretensioner.
>
> I have a McElroy S600 Teardrop shaped bug and it's all chrome so I went
> with the aluminum.
>
> I just matched colors.
>
> 73
>
> DR

>
> On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 2:31 PM, k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>>
>>
>> David,
>> Do you have a preference for the aluminum or brass pretensioner? And why?
>> 73, Milt k5oso
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2461. ULTIMATE 73 BUG

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-03 09:35:16 UTC
From: f9wtchristian@...
Topic: 2461  Message: 2461
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello dear friends !

I get an Ultimate 73 bug in my collection . I use it for portable operation with my QRP HB1B .
I like it. It's a very pleasant small bug !

His SN is 15.874. Do you know In what year this bug has been made ?

73 from France

Chris F9WT

# 2462. New Champion/Lightning weights

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-04 05:15:32 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2462  Message: 2462

Donnie, WA9TGT listed a limited number of 1.4oz weights on his website today for the Champion/Lightning bugs.

http://www.2bradioparts.com/index.html http://www.2bradioparts.com/index.html

Just passing it on for those who might be interested.

73
Tim
NZ8J

# 2463. Re: New Champion/Lightning weights

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-07 23:12:16 UTC
From: nz8j@...
Topic: 2462  Message: 2463

Got the weight for my Champion from Donnie, WA9TGT today.... it's just what the doctor ordered to help tame the lil bug down to my capabilities. It really looks great to boot....

Now to get in some much needed practice, no more excuses.. hi hi

73
Tim
NZ8J

# 2464. The Woodbug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-12 16:50:44 UTC
From: Gary Johnson
Topic: 2464  Message: 2464
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Now for something completely different… After doing some restoration work and experimentation with various bugs, I decided to build a bug from wood, to go along with my wooden hand key and keyer. I suppose I need to do a paddle next. Thanks for the inspiration from the other craftsmen who inhabit this group.

At the bottom of my web page, there’s a link to the full writeup. It will also be published shortly in this month’s CWops Solid Copy.
http://www.wb9jps.com/Gary_Johnson/Bugs.html

Abstract
A new semiautomatic Morse key has been fabricated almost entirely of wood. Its primary design feature is a very low inertia mechanism that permits exceptionally sensitive operation similar to high-performance iambic paddles. Magnets, used in attraction mode, are used in lieu of springs and provide crisp action. Lever force adjustments are made via a novel rotary adjuster. A magnetic reed switch is the dot contact, and dot weighting is precisely adjustable while operating. No lock nuts are used for any adjustments; 56 TPI threads with an interference fit provide high-resolution positioning and are vibration resistant. Overall form factor is a compact 6 by 3 by 1.8 inches and it weighs 2.0 lb.

Gary, NA6O

# 2465. Re: [cw_bugs] The Woodbug [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-13 05:14:01 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2464  Message: 2465

Absolutely beautiful.

Makes me cry it's so beautiful.

Now to hear it play!

73

David N1EA

# 2466. Re: The Woodbug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-13 16:25:53 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2464  Message: 2466

Gary,

VERY nice. Have you tried slowing it down with more pendulum weights ?

Tom
W4TMW

# 2467. Re: The Woodbug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-14 02:05:01 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2464  Message: 2467

If I want it to go slower, I'd make a new weight. They are very small... Probably could wrap a tiny bit of solder around it for a temporary change. I'm not much for running a bug below 20 or so anyway but that's just me.

Yes I do need to get out of contest mode and put this little darling on the air.

I was also thinking of sending it out on "world tour" and let some of you guys fiddle with it. Definitely not a standard bug, for better or worse.

Gary

# 2468. Re: The Woodbug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-15 15:47:27 UTC
From: Richard Meiss
Topic: 2464  Message: 2468

Hi, Gary -

What a beautiful piece of work, from both the asthetic andf
engineering standpoints! Congratulations!

73 de RIch, WB9LPU

# 2469. NAQCC March Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-15 23:12:45 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2469  Message: 2469

The March sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (March 16th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day!), 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201603.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2470. Sunday night is the March RFTB

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-19 13:11:27 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2470  Message: 2470

Sunday night is the March 2016 edition of the Run For The Bacon.

Happy Easter!

A friendly QRP Sprint that is held on the 3rd Sunday evening of every month, and is sponsored by the Flying Pigs Amateur Radio Club, International.

The sprint is the same time, ragardless of time change:
East Coast - 9:00 to 11:00 PM local time
Midwest - 8:00 to 10:00 PM local time.
Mountains - 7:00 to 9:00 PM local time.
West Coast - 6:00 to 8:00 PM local time.

Complete rules can be found at http://fpqrp.org/pigrun

72, "oo" es see you on the bands!
Larry W2LJ - Flying Pig #612

# 2471. VIBROPLEX ORIGINAL SELLING SORTA CHEAP ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-23 00:40:05 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2471 Message: 2471

JUST IN CASE ANYONE WANTS A 67 VINTAGE ORIGINAL. I HAVE SEVERAL OF THESE
OR I WOULD BE ALL OVER IT. NO IT IS NOT ONE OF MINE AND I DONT KNOW THE
SELLER. JUST SEEMS LIKE A GOOD DEAL IN THE MAKING.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/252322040508?_trksid=p2060353.m1438.l2649&ssPageName=STRK%3AMEBIDX
%3AIT

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2472. question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-25 12:52:51 UTC
From: qrpcwguy@...
Topic: 2472  Message: 2472
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello,

I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps. I guess it is whatever works for you. Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people. On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot. There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes. Should this section open or should it stay together? I have seen some people send without this section opening up. The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes. I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work. It seems to send ok for me this way.

John, N4HNO

# 2473. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-25 17:35:37 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2472  Message: 2473

John, the way that mine is set up is with about 3/32 in.between the contacts on both the dot and dash contacts.  The dot arm does not move when I make a dash but the dash arm pivots on the spindle and moves away from the dot arm.  The dot arm rests slightly against the damper when the key is at rest.  The dot contact makes about 10 dits before it starts to slow.  I use a 1 oz weight about 1/16 in from the damper.  My key is an Anniversary Original, about 5 or 6 years old, but when sending I cannot tell a difference between it and a 1921 Original.  The "Modern" Originals have the rounded arches for mold release and the pre Late thirties have the squared arches that were sawed from sheet brass.  I can send at about 30 with it and slow with Farnsworth or Koch method to near 20 before it sounds bad.  Below that I go to a straight key which I keep a Bencher RJ-1 at the ready. Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,

From: "qrpcwguy@yahoo.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 7:52 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

  [Attachment(s) from qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] included below] Hello,

I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps.  I guess it is whatever works for you.  Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people.  On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
 My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot.  There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes.  Should this section open or should it stay together?  I have seen some people send without this section opening up.  The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes.  I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work.  It seems to send ok for me this way.

John, N4HNO

# 2474. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-25 18:13:56 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2472  Message: 2474
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

John,

A keyer requires no "energy" from you, so it can be set with very small gap and very light resistance. It can, and arguably should, be manipulated with your arm and wrist essentially still, elements called for by minimal movement of fingers for speed, accuracy, and relaxation.

The Vibroplex bug is different. I say the Vibroplex because there are other bug mechanisms than that used by the Vibroplex. The main spring that makes dits is at rest until it is moved. The mainspring is energized by you. If it is moved a very short distance, and very gently, it may make no dits at all.

The old time operators would REQUIRE that beginners open up the gap a distance of between one and two sixteenths of inch. The dash gap is generally set to a similar distance.

The old time operators would REQUIRE the beginner to swing from the elbow and by golly ACTUATE the main spring lever. It should produce a string of at least a dozen good dits. A well adjusted bug may produce many more. I have seen them produce fifty dits +.

Producing good dashes comes from putting a certain tension on tendons, not unlike what you do to produce 25 wpm on a straight key. Dashes are not produced with deliberate movements of the fingers, but comes from this tension on tendons of the wrist and/or elbow.

When starting out using a bug, make certain that:

* dashes are AT LEAST three times the length of dits.

* spacing between letters is decidedly longer than the spacing between dits and dahs within a letter

* spacing between words is decidedly longer than spacing between letters.

People who do the above can be easily copied. For those who don't, the reverse is true.

I find that because I manipulate a keyer with my fingers, and a bug with my elbow and wrist, I have no problem going from one to the other. People who try to do both types of keys with the same kind of motion, usually can not.

There is another type of bug that uses a release mechanism to create dits. These keys have the mainspring already energized, and the operator releases it to vibrate. Such bugs do not require the operator to hit it hard to energize the spring, still, the gap has to be adequate for the energized spring to develop some speed, so adjustment is about the same. It is just more relaxing to use. Examples of such bugs are those made by Mecograph and Simplex-Auto.

73, Fred KT5X

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 6:53 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

[Attachment(s) from qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] included below]

Hello,

I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps. I guess it is whatever works for you. Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people. On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot. There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes. Should this section open or should it stay together? I have seen some people send without this section opening up. The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes. I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work. It seems to send ok for me this way.

John, N4HNO

# 2475. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-25 21:03:21 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2472  Message: 2475

Fred, we live in the same town, but 760 miles apart. I tell folks that the Railroad was named for Santa Fe, NM and Santa Fe, TX was named for the railroad. I don't find much to argue about with the bug technique, but the main difference that I find is that keyers usually complete the dit or dah and bugs cannot. I am not sure about different techniques, as I never paid attention to that, but with the previous fact, a certainly different technique and timing is required to send good code. I think that one problem is that modern operators tend to send too slow and the bug was designed to send between 25 and 50 words per minute. Anything below 20 sounds really bad, so I either use a straight key or the dah finger piece. Mostly I keep a straight key plugged in for QRS. I can change back and forth, but it takes a few minutes of practice to adjust. My gap of 3/32 sure falls between 1/16 and 2/16, at least it did when I minored in math. There is a reason that many call a bug a speed key and if you can tell the difference between a bug and a keyer, the bug sender needs to improve his/her keying or cut her finger nails. Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,Santa Fe, TX
From: "'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 1:13 PM
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

John, A keyer requires no "energy" from you, so it can be set with very small gap and very light resistance. It can, and arguably should, be manipulated with your arm and wrist essentially still, elements called for by minimal movement of fingers for speed, accuracy, and relaxation. The Vibroplex bug is different. I say the Vibroplex because there are other bug mechanisms than that used by the Vibroplex. The main spring that makes dits is at rest until it is moved. The mainspring is energized by you. If it is moved a very short distance, and very gently, it may make no dits at all. The old time operators would REQUIRE that beginners open up the gap a distance of between one and two sixteenths of inch. The dash gap is generally set to a similar distance. The old time operators would REQUIRE the beginner to swing from the elbow and by golly ACTUATE the main spring lever. It should produce a string of at least a dozen good dits. A well adjusted bug may produce many more. I have seen them produce fifty dits +. Producing good dashes comes from putting a certain tension on tendons, not unlike what you do to produce 25 wpm on a straight key. Dashes are not produced with deliberate movements of the fingers, but comes from this tension on tendons of the wrist and/or elbow. When starting out using a bug, make certain that: * dashes are AT LEAST three times the length of dits. * spacing between letters is decidedly longer than the spacing between dits and dahs within a letter * spacing between words is decidedly longer than spacing between letters. People who do the above can be easily copied. For those who don't, the reverse is true. I find that because I manipulate a keyer with my fingers, and a bug with my elbow and wrist, I have no problem going from one to the other. People who try to do both types of keys with the same kind of motion, usually can not. There is another type of bug that uses a release mechanism to create dits. These keys have the mainspring already energized, and the operator releases it to vibrate. Such bugs do not require the operator to hit it hard to energize the spring, still, the gap has to be adequate for the energized spring to develop some speed, so adjustment is about the same. It is just more relaxing to use. Examples of

such bugs are those made by Mecograph and Simplex-Auto.  73,  Fred KT5X  From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 6:53 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]  [Attachment(s) from qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] included below] Hello,

I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps.  I guess it is whatever works for you.  Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people.  On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
 My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot.  There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes.  Should this section open or should it stay together?  I have seen some people send without this section opening up.  The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes.  I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work.  It seems to send ok for me this way.

John, N4HNO

# 2476. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 00:53:36 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2472  Message: 2476

There should be no gap between between the yoke and bar. The gap
between the dash contacts is more of a personal
preference.

Often a beginner's mistake is setting the dot contacts closer for a
slower dot speed, where the wider gap will allow
a slower dot speed. There are limits without the use of one of the
various dot "tammers."

As pointed out by one, keyers are mostly self completing with dashes and
dots. Bugs are NOT and requires the sender
to adjust for this when switching between either type key. To switch
seamlessly between both without errors, is a
personal goal of mine. It requires me to concentrate more when I switch.

Yes, you can send with paddles and keyer using your hand/fingers, but a
bug requires more wrist, even forearm, motion
to send well. My TW Olympic double lever magnetic bug allows me to use
less hand/forearm action, but that is part
of its design.

But, remember the fun is in learning each and using them all well. Have fun.

On 3/25/2016 7:52 AM, qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> [Attachment(s) <#TopText> from qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] included
> below]
>
> Hello,
>
> I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and
> some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow
> gaps. I guess it is whatever works for you. Some people operate with
> more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually
> went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to
> sending with less motion than some people. On the bug, I try to setup
> with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
> My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main
> pivot. There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate
> when you are making dashes. Should this section open or should it
> stay together? I have seen some people send without this section
> opening up. The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section
> opens and closes. I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or
> is this how it is supposed to work. It seems to send ok for me this way.
>
> John, N4HNO
>

>
>
--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2477. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 05:56:33 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2472  Message: 2477

John,

You have heard from the best and been given excellent advice.

I, too use a vertically moving straight key our horizontally moving straight key (cootie) when sending below 20 wpm as the bug was just not designed for such slow speeds and it seems all imperfections in timing and adjustments off the bug are amplified at such slow speeds resulting in ugly sounding keying.

73

David N1EA

# 2478. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 21:48:17 UTC
From: Leslie Hock
Topic: 2472  Message: 2478

John,
because the bug is powered by muscle motion es not electrons, the contacts need to be a bit father apart than for a keyed or even a straight key. Set the dit spacing to your liking (at least 10 dits in a row on a normal movement) and then set the dah side for smoother character formation. You will hear some keys set so that the code sounds like ditditdit ,,, DAH …. means the dah space is probably too wide. Also if the dah interrupts the dit the spacing is too narrow. I like about 2 QSL cards spacing on the dah side and 2 to 3 on the dit side, depending on the speed I've set for the bug.

Just my way of setting it up, others do other ways, but regardless of the bug type (I have both Vibroplex and Logan bugs) the object is clean code formation. Too close or far on the dot side and the bug won't make a consistent stream of dits. Not right on the dah side and the characters sound choppy and hard to copy.

Les

Leslie Hock
WB5JWI
SKCC 5013 T
wb5jwi@...
lhock@...

REAL RADIOS GLOW IN THE DARK AND KEEP THE SHACK WARM!

> On Mar 25, 2016, at 07:52, qrpcwguy@yahoo.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> [Attachment(s) <x-msg://68/#TopText> from qrpcwguy@... <mailto:qrpcwguy@...> [cw_bugs] included below]
> Hello,
>
> I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps. I guess it is whatever works for you. Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people. On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
> My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot. There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes. Should this section open or should it stay together? I have seen some people send without this section opening up. The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes. I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work. It seems to send ok for me this way.
>
> John, N4HNO
>
>

>
>
>

# 2479. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 22:14:30 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2472  Message: 2479

The lady on the commercial station on the Night of Nights celebration has about the most exaggerated finger motion that I have seen, but I think a lot of that are to show off her long finger nails.  My motion looks more like paddles than her motion.  I like my cw to sound like it was made by paddles, but I do make a few mistakes.  I try to make it sound like paddles and some have told me I have some success, but I try to not have much swing. Some of the swing you hear from bugs comes from trying to go too slow or trying to sound cool.  I endeavor to avoid any characteristic that sounds unique.  Some comes from trying to use a 0.5 ounce weight at speeds below 35 WPM.  I think that is because most bugs in ham use were bought for commercial operators so they could increase their code speed beyond that they were capable of sending with a straight key and to relieve the glass arm syndrome from sending for 10 or more hours per day.  Modern bugs come with 1.0 ounce weights that allow a slower speed (20 to 30 wpm) but have a distinctive bug sound when one attempts to lower the speed to SKCC usual speeds. Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,

From: "Leslie Hock wb5jwi@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2016 4:48 PM
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

  John,because the bug is powered by muscle motion es not electrons, the contacts need to be a bit father apart than for a keyed or even a straight key.  Set the dit spacing to your liking (at least 10 dits in a row on a normal movement) and then set the dah side for smoother character formation.  You will hear some keys set so that the code sounds like ditditdit ,,, DAH …. means the dah space is probably too wide.  Also if the dah interrupts the dit the spacing is too narrow.  I like about 2 QSL cards spacing on the dah side and 2 to 3 on the dit side, depending on the speed I've set for the bug.
Just my way of setting it up, others do other ways, but regardless of the bug type (I have both Vibroplex and Logan bugs) the object is clean code formation.  Too close or far on the dot side and the bug won't make a consistent stream of dits. Not right on the dah side and the characters sound choppy and hard to copy.
Les

Leslie Hock
WB5JWI
SKCC 5013 T
wb5jwi@...
lhock@...

REAL RADIOS GLOW IN THE DARK AND KEEP THE SHACK WARM!

On Mar 25, 2016, at 07:52, qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
[Attachment(s) from qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] included below]Hello,

I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps.  I guess it is whatever works for you.  Some people operate with more motion on the wrist. I started with a straight key and

eventually went to a keyer because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less motion than some people.  On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
 My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main pivot.  There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you are making dashes.  Should this section open or should it stay together?  I have seen some people send without this section opening up.  The way I have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes.  I was just wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to work.  It seems to send ok for me this way.

John, N4HNO

# 2480. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 22:44:28 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2472  Message: 2480

Some bad sending is caused by sending faster than one can, the dashes are sent st 30 wpm, tune doors are going out st 50!

73

DR
On Mar 26, 2016 6:17 PM, "WILLIS COOKE wrcooke@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> The lady on the commercial station on the Night of Nights celebration has
> about the most exaggerated finger motion that I have seen, but I think a
> lot of that are to show off her long finger nails. My motion looks more
> like paddles than her motion. I like my cw to sound like it was made by
> paddles, but I do make a few mistakes. I try to make it sound like paddles
> and some have told me I have some success, but I try to not have much
> swing. Some of the swing you hear from bugs comes from trying to go too
> slow or trying to sound cool. I endeavor to avoid any characteristic that
> sounds unique. Some comes from trying to use a 0.5 ounce weight at speeds
> below 35 WPM. I think that is because most bugs in ham use were bought for
> commercial operators so they could increase their code speed beyond that
> they were capable of sending with a straight key and to relieve the glass
> arm syndrome from sending for 10 or more hours per day. Modern bugs come
> with 1.0 ounce weights that allow a slower speed (20 to 30 wpm) but have a
> distinctive bug sound when one attempts to lower the speed to SKCC usual
> speeds.
>
> Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,
>
>
> ---
> *From:* "Leslie Hock wb5jwi@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Saturday, March 26, 2016 4:48 PM
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment
>
>
> John,
> because the bug is powered by muscle motion es not electrons, the contacts
> need to be a bit father apart than for a keyed or even a straight key. Set
> the dit spacing to your liking (at least 10 dits in a row on a normal
> movement) and then set the dah side for smoother character formation. You
> will hear some keys set so that the code sounds like ditditdit ,,, DAH ….
> means the dah space is probably too wide. Also if the dah interrupts the
> dit the spacing is too narrow. I like about 2 QSL cards spacing on the dah

> side and 2 to 3 on the dit side, depending on the speed I've set for the
> bug.
>
> Just my way of setting it up, others do other ways, but regardless of the
> bug type (I have both Vibroplex and Logan bugs) the object is clean code
> formation. Too close or far on the dot side and the bug won't make a
> consistent stream of dits. Not right on the dah side and the characters
> sound choppy and hard to copy.
>
> Les
>
> Leslie Hock
> WB5JWI
> SKCC 5013 T
> wb5jwi@...
> lhock@...
>
>
> REAL RADIOS GLOW IN THE DARK AND KEEP THE SHACK WARM!
>
>
> On Mar 25, 2016, at 07:52, qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> [Attachment(s) from qrpcwguy@yahoo.com [cw_bugs] included below]
> Hello,
>
> I have seen some videos of people operating with Vibroplex bugs and some
> people seem to favor wide gaps on the dash contacts, some narrow gaps. I
> guess it is whatever works for you. Some people operate with more motion
> on the wrist. I started with a straight key and eventually went to a keyer
> because that is what my friends had so I am used to sending with less
> motion than some people. On the bug, I try to setup with fairly tight
> contacts and still I end up batting it around at times.
> My question is about the part near the fingerpieces that has the main
> pivot. There are two halves and it appears to be made to separate when you
> are making dashes. Should this section open or should it stay together? I
> have seen some people send without this section opening up. The way I
> have my Lighning Bug adjusted, this section opens and closes. I was just
> wondering if I have this setup wrong or is this how it is supposed to
> work. It seems to send ok for me this way.
>
> John, N4HNO
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

>
>

# 2481. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-26 23:23:14 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2472  Message: 2481

Some bad sending is caused by sending faster than one can, the dashes are sent st 30 wpm, tune doors are going out st 50!

73

DR

THAT's my problem; my doors aren't tuned!

;-)

- fred kt5x

# 2482. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 02:53:07 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2472  Message: 2482

I had one, Fred, that was tuned at 750 Hz! Literally unlocking when I
had speakers on and side tone at 750 Hz on one rig.
It would unlock and drift open on windy days! At that time, my rigs
were at 800 Hz except that one. I never figured out
why except it was a cheap door/latch.

As for dot contact spacing, I have found that the gap influences the
speed range a bit. Going to the edges of those ranges
did detract from the code made, true. Remember, the code is a ration of
one dot with a dot spacing between elements.
Dashes are three dots in length with the same dot length of spacing.
Your hands and fingers move the mechanical pieces
to generate the sound your ears hears. When you let your ears hear the
music of CW, you are there. Let your ears hear
what they desire.

On 3/26/2016 6:23 PM, 'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> THAT's my problem; my doors aren't tuned!
>
> ;-)
>
> - fred kt5x
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2483. Re: question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 03:01:02 UTC
From: qrpcwguy@...
Topic: 2472  Message: 2483

I have a Vibroplex Lightning bug (from the 1930's I think, the plate is missing and it has been repaired a few times). I works best at 30 wpm and above. I have a photo of it in the gallery. I need to slow it down so I can get the dah/dit ratio worked out. I get too many dits for my sending speed.

I have a 1990's model Vibroplex and the fastest I can get out of it is probably 25 wpm with the standard weight. The old bug has been around and has several different kinds of hardware and paint but it screams. I like it but I'm not that good. I can't hang with the 40 to 60 wpm crowd. The newer and slower one can get dits and dahs closer to where they need to be for me.

Thanks

John, N4HNO ex KA4VOA ( I wish I had kept that old novice call)

# 2484. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 03:15:33 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2472  Message: 2484

MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS THE LATCH ON THE BACK DOOR FAILING AFTER ONLY 3 YEARS OF FULL TIME CW HAM RADIO.

IT HAPPENED AFTER I RECEIVED A GIFT OF A TUNED CW SPEAKER. IT WORKS AT 700 HZ. I HAVE USED CERTAIN SPEAKERS FOR DECADES AND NOW ONE IS IN STORAGE. CANT COPY SSB ETC ON THAT TUNED THING BUT ON CW I WISH I HAD GONE TUNED SPEAKER LONG AGO. MY BAD EARS ARE HAPPY AGAIN.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2485. Nice way to spend a Sat. evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 03:19:39 UTC
From: John Raynsford
Topic: 2485  Message: 2485

Hope everyone on the list is having a good weekend. Justfinished an enjoyable qso with AD0AK, Jeff on 14055 khz.Jeff was using his 1922 vintage Vibroplex and myself a blue racer made earlier this year.

With that, I think its time to update my qrz.com photo's withsome more updated bug photo's.

Cheers to all !de AL7JK, John

# 2486. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 05:01:07 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2472  Message: 2486

Hi John,

You may have one that needs the wider dot contact spacing to lower the dot speed range for a start. Having taken apart, rebuild and refurbished a number of bugs, I have found so many variations in parts of same models, like spring tensions. So, one rule does not fit all, er adjustment.

When I got into the SKCC as I got back into bugs, I found many newbies, QRS operators. So, I tried many of the dot tamers. They pleasantly surprised me to allow QRS with these newbies. Then, I discovered a couple made speed changes easier as well. Some of the earlier keys had stiffer main springs, but were used at higher speeds, no problem. For lower speeds, they need to be adjusted, modified and/or adapted. Forget the "standards."

On 3/26/2016 10:01 PM, qrpcwguy@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> I have a Vibroplex Lightning bug (from the 1930's I think, the plate
> is missing and it has been repaired a few times). I works best at 30
> wpm and above. I have a photo of it in the gallery. I need to slow it
> down so I can get the dah/dit ratio worked out. I get too many dits
> for my sending speed.
>
> I have a 1990's model Vibroplex and the fastest I can get out of it
> is probably 25 wpm with the standard weight. The old bug has been
> around and has several different kinds of hardware and paint but it
> screams. I like it but I'm not that good. I can't hang with the 40
> to 60 wpm crowd. The newer and slower one can get dits and dahs
> closer to where they need to be for me.
>
> Thanks
>
> John, N4HNO ex KA4VOA ( I wish I had kept that old novice call)

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)

Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2487. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 05:31:14 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2472  Message: 2487

That's good, Benny.

I tried tuned speakers, for both CW & SSB (minimal). They did help (not the same room), but finally resorted to
good cans and hearing aides when not using cans. The VA gave me the wireless adapter I wear on a cord around
my neck that pipes the audio into my aides and another adapter that goes into the earphone jack. The delay in
the one setup made sending useless, but the direct to the pack around my neck worked great.

On 3/26/2016 10:15 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS THE LATCH ON THE BACK DOOR FAILING AFTER ONLY 3
> YEARS OF FULL TIME CW HAM RADIO.
>
> IT HAPPENED AFTER I RECEIVED A GIFT OF A TUNED CW SPEAKER. IT WORKS AT
> 700 HZ. I HAVE USED CERTAIN SPEAKERS FOR DECADES AND NOW ONE IS IN
> STORAGE. CANT COPY SSB ETC ON THAT TUNED THING BUT ON CW I WISH I HAD
> GONE TUNED SPEAKER LONG AGO. MY BAD EARS ARE HAPPY AGAIN.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2488. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-27 12:50:08 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2472  Message: 2488

Yes, FD, my darned spellchecker!

Some bad sending is caused by sending faster than one can, the dashes are sent at 30 wpm, the dots are going out at 50!

Slow dashes, very fast dots!! Such sending was admired in South America where they copied this aberration of correct sending used by airline flight radio officers who often took off the bug weights at night when their supervisors were no longer listening to them over the radio.

A less exaggerated Morse dialect was used on the U.S.A.'s. Great Lakes, it was called the Lake Erie Swing (LES). They didn't take their weights off, they just made 35 wpm dots and lagging 20 wpm dashes which often were even extended to be even slower!

73

DR
On Mar 26, 2016 7:23 PM, "'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Some bad sending is caused by sending faster than one can, the dashes are
> sent st 30 wpm, tune doors are going out st 50!
>
> 73
>
> DR
>
> THAT's my problem; my doors aren't tuned!
>
> ;-)
>
> - fred kt5x
>
>
>
>

# 2489. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-28 12:15:12 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2472  Message: 2489

Swings....I like them all. Guess I'm "bug infested"
Sometimes I deliberately break into a swing with fast dits and long dashes.

It really flummoxes those code reader lids.

Actually I've found that dits aren't as necessary as dahs.

In heavy QRN the South America method mentioned above works best.

But then I do feel sorry for the 3:1 ratio crowd and try to accommodate.

N4LQ

# 2490. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-28 14:33:40 UTC
From: Leslie Hock
Topic: 2472  Message: 2490

Been reading the thread with some interest - While I prefer ‘good’ code to ‘personalized’ code, it doesn’t really bother me too much right up to the point that ‘personalized’ becomes difficult to read. When the swing makes a CQ sound like CAA, I don’t bother to respond just because I don’t want to copy sloppy sending. Yes, we all send sloppy code on occasion but the faster you send, the harder it is to copy.

While I will gladly dig a QRP signal out of the noise, I tend to resist poor code. Cootie, bug, or straight key doesn’t matter much, poor technique matters a lot. Running characters together for ‘style’ is just no way to communicate and we are about communicating. If you want to add style, fine, but make sure you leave enough space between characters to give the receiving op a reasonable chance to understand you. 'Real lyru ntoge herco de’ with poor spacing is just no fun at all. I’m not at all adverse to style or to changing spacing as long as it serves the purpose of communicating. I will ‘Farnsworth’ (can Farnsworth be used as a verb?) my code for readability due to band conditions or the other op’s speed or what seems needed to communicate but just to make myself stand out and be cool seems inconsiderate. The op who sends 3 as ditditdit (pause). dah dah has only made his call hard to copy, not made himself sound good.

Just my not so humble opinion, of course.

Les

Leslie Hock
WB5JWI
SKCC 5013 T
wb5jwi@...
lhock@...

REAL RADIOS GLOW IN THE DARK AND KEEP THE SHACK WARM!

> On Mar 28, 2016, at 07:15, n4lq@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> Swings....I like them all. Guess I'm "bug infested"
>
>
> Sometimes I deliberately break into a swing with fast dits and long dashes.
>
>
> It really flummoxes those code reader lids.
>
> Actually I've found that dits aren't as necessary as dahs.
>
> In heavy QRN the South America method mentioned above works best.
>
> But then I do feel sorry for the 3:1 ratio crowd and try to accommodate.
>

> N4LQ
>
>

# 2491. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-28 16:19:15 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2472  Message: 2491

DAVID N1EA

PLEASE ANSWER A LONG NAGGING QUESTION FOR ME. I HAVE HEARD OF THE LAKE ERIE SWING AND ALSO THE BANANA BOAT SWING. ARE THEY THE SAME THING OR IF NOT, HOW DID THEY DIFFER?

I TRUST OTHERS HERE WOULD LIKE MORE INFO ON THIS QUESTION. OTHERWISE, PLEASE EXCUSE THE BANDWIDTH.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2492. Re: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-28 22:11:55 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2472  Message: 2492

Benny,

I have learned it as the Banana Boat Swing, a rather Caribbean rhythm
that fit with a hot, sweaty climate that
the operators got into running those routes.

Then on the cold Great lakes, an operator's hands tend to get stiff in
the cold climate and were not quite as smooth,
thus known as the Lake Erie Chop.

Also, the seas of the Caribbean are smoother or more rolling except
during a hurricane. I can testify, Lake Erie is shallower
and produces some really bad a__ storms because. It is liken to coming
into a shallower port in bad weather in the Caribbean.
Beats your butt to you know where & back. One of my Elmers was a ship
board operator, Ben, W8VPC (SK). Ben was originally
from Barbados, but operated in all the seas and the Great Lakes. Quite
the stories he could tell as his family had a sail
shipping line until the end of WW II.

Joe, V31JP/K8JP
On 3/28/2016 11:19 AM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> DAVID N1EA
>
> PLEASE ANSWER A LONG NAGGING QUESTION FOR ME. I HAVE HEARD OF THE
> LAKE ERIE SWING AND ALSO THE BANANA BOAT SWING. ARE THEY THE SAME
> THING OR IF NOT, HOW DID THEY DIFFER?
>
> I TRUST OTHERS HERE WOULD LIKE MORE INFO ON THIS QUESTION. OTHERWISE,
> PLEASE EXCUSE THE BANDWIDTH.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)

903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2493. RE: [cw_bugs] question about bug setup & adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-03-29 03:47:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2472  Message: 2493

Lake Erie Swing (LES) originated on the Great Lakes, Banana Boat Swing originated from South of the Border.

I think they're about the same, some say LES had extra dots added for good measure.

Banana Boat Swing seems to have been originated from United Fruit ships will were excellent operators, many of whom also worked as flight radio officers when shopping w was poor. I know that flight Sparks took off the weight at night but they always sent the right number of dots.

That's all I know.

David
On Mar 28, 2016 12:24 PM, "Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> DAVID N1EA
>
> PLEASE ANSWER A LONG NAGGING QUESTION FOR ME. I HAVE HEARD OF THE LAKE
> ERIE SWING AND ALSO THE BANANA BOAT SWING. ARE THEY THE SAME THING OR IF
> NOT, HOW DID THEY DIFFER?
>
> I TRUST OTHERS HERE WOULD LIKE MORE INFO ON THIS QUESTION. OTHERWISE,
> PLEASE EXCUSE THE BANDWIDTH.
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
>
>

# 2494. NAQCC April Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-04-11 23:16:33 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2494  Message: 2494

The April sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (April 12th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, April 13th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201604.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2495. Value of German Junker Key??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-04-26 00:57:22 UTC
From: jprybak@...
Topic: 2495  Message: 2495

I realize that this isn't bug related but it is CW related. I see that there is a German Junker military telegraph key listed on Ebay. The listing says that it "appears to be unused." I'm wondering what a fair price for it would be. The bidding currently is at $35. I hear that this a pretty good key. Is this correct?

Thanks.

Jim

# 2496. Re: [cw_bugs] Value of German Junker Key??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-04-26 01:04:04 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2495  Message: 2496

I do not have one, but it has a reputation as being a superb hand key.  It will probably be bid up to about $300 or more.  The Junker will usually bring a very high price. Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,SKCC 4077S
From: "jprybak@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 7:57 PM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Value of German Junker Key??

I realize that this isn't bug related but it is CW related.  I see that there is a German Junker military telegraph key listed on Ebay.  The listing says that it "appears to be unused."  I'm wondering what a fair price for it would be. The bidding currently is at $35.  I hear that this a pretty good key. Is this correct?
Thanks.
Jim

# 2497. Re: [cw_bugs] Value of German Junker Key??

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-04-26 03:14:31 UTC
From: David J. J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2495  Message: 2497

If you search ebay.de for junker morsetaste you will find some for 50 EURO or so. $300 for a Junker? I have two, I am rich!

I like the workmanship on the key, the little elevator for the tension spring is awesome! The older keys had a spacing know that clicked as you turned it, the newer ones just had a rubber grommet that provided friction.

73

David
N1EA

On April 25, 2016 9:04:04 PM EDT, "WILLIS COOKE wrcooke@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>I do not have one, but it has a reputation as being a superb hand key.
> It will probably be bid up to about $300 or more.  The Junker will
>usually bring a very high price. Willis 'Cookie' Cooke,SKCC 4077S
> From: "jprybak@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 7:57 PM
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Value of German Junker Key??
>
>
>I realize that this isn't bug related but it is CW related.  I see that
>there is a German Junker military telegraph key listed on Ebay.  The
>listing says that it "appears to be unused."  I'm wondering what a fair
>price for it would be. The bidding currently is at $35.  I hear
>that this a pretty good key. Is this correct?
>Thanks.
>Jim
>

# 2498. FW: W.R Smith

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-10 13:11:15 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2498  Message: 2498

QSP: - Fred KT5X

Hi all,
Just heard that W. R Smith passed away early this morning...He was an amazing guy....

Theo

# 2499. Re: FW: W.R Smith

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-11 14:16:36 UTC
From: cameldriver777
Topic: 2498  Message: 2499

More sad news. So glad I was fortunate enough to spend a few hours with him several years ago at his home. Such a talented man.My condolences to his wife Judy and family. I will miss exchanging emails and his expert advice. So sad.73Pete W5PEH

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

# 2500. Re: [cw_bugs] FW: W.R Smith

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-11 13:45:57 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2498  Message: 2500

That is very sad news, Fred. He was a wonderful guy and always helpful
to anyone that asked.
I learned much from Bill, his books and his videos. They will continue
to be treasured by all that have
them. I know that the last time I spoke with him, he said he had some
heart health issues that
were effecting his ability to do his machining, eye sight and physical
ability. He was a treasure
and will be missed by many.

RIP, Bill.

On 5/10/2016 8:11 AM, 'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> QSP: - Fred KT5X
>
> Hi all,
> Just heard that W. R Smith passed away early this morning...He was an
> amazing guy....
>
> Theo

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2501. FW: ARLB016 Missouri Radio Amateur Petitions FCC to Designate "Symbol Communication" Subbands

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-12 20:53:04 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2501  Message: 2501

> If you have not seen this already..... it would have a terrible
> impact on the CW portions of the bands.
>
>
> Alan - AC2K
> Redmond, WA
>
> From: ARRL Web site [mailto:memberlist@...]
> Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 1:00 PM
> To: akomenski@...
> Subject: ARLB016 Missouri Radio Amateur Petitions FCC to Designate
> "Symbol Communication" Subbands
>
> SB QST @ ARL $ARLB016
> ARLB016 Missouri Radio Amateur Petitions FCC to Designate "Symbol
> Communication" Subbands
>
> ZCZC AG16
> QST de W1AW
> ARRL Bulletin 16 ARLB016
> From ARRL Headquarters
> Newington CT May 12, 2016
> To all radio amateurs
>
> SB QST ARL ARLB016
> ARLB016 Missouri Radio Amateur Petitions FCC to Designate "Symbol
> Communication" Subbands
>
> James E. Whedbee, N0ECN, of Gladstone, Missouri, has petitioned the
> FCC to designate Morse (radiotelegraphy) Amateur Radio band segments
> as "symbol communication" subbands. The FCC has invited comments on
> his Petition for Rule Making (RM-11769), filed on May 2. Arguing that
> retaining the current regime of "legacy" CW subbands has proven to be
> grossly inefficient, Whedbee said he'd like to see the FCC delete all
> privilege restrictions that limit any part of the Amateur Radio
> spectrum to Morse code to the exclusion of other modes.
>
> RM-11769 can be found on the web at,
> http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=60001692464 .
>
> "Nostalgia for retention of Morse code telegraphy-only subbands is
> also an insufficient reason to avoid moving forward to [the]
> elimination of such subbands, because nothing about this Petition
> suggests the elimination of the mode itself, only that it not be the

> sole authorized mode in the subject subbands," Whedbee told the FCC.
>
> Whedbee characterized CW-only subbands as "an excessive regulatory
> constraint, as well as a poor use of the spectrum concerned." He
> proposed that the FCC's Part 97 rules reflect the "ultimate form of
> communication reproduced at the receiving end." As he explained it,
> his regulatory scheme would break down modes into three categories -
> "symbol communication mode" - for CW, digital, and other emission
> modes that reproduce a discrete symbol on the receiving end - "voice mode," and "image
mode."
>
> "[C]ontinuing regulation by specific emission designator is proving to
> be onerous with changes to the state of the art," Whedbee said.
> "Accordingly, to continue developing the state of the art in
> radiocommunications, Amateur Radio needs to clearly get away from
> regulating in that fashion and return to consideration of what the
> receiving end of the communication reproduces."
>
> He proposed that where the Part 97 rules refer to exclusive
> radiotelegraphy allocations - or subbands - privileges be changed to
> reflect symbol communication modes. Where the rules prohibit voice and
> image modes, he would revise the rules to reflect symbol communication
> modes. In situations where current rules prohibit symbol communication
> modes other than Morse, that voice and image modes would be permitted,
> "with an exception for manually keyed"
> radiotelegraphy.
>
> For example, he would drop the distinction between 75 meters and 80
> meters, authorizing symbol communication modes between 3.5 MHz and
> 3.65 MHz, and voice and image modes between 3.65 MHz and 4 MHz, with
> manual radiotelegraphy authorized throughout the band.
>
> Whedbee told the FCC that, if his Petition is accepted for filing and
> put on public notice, he would submit an appendix spelling out
> proposed service rules as part of his Petition.
>
> Commenters have 30 days to respond to Whedbee's Petition.
> NNNN
> /EX
>
> --
> You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "foc_members"
group.
> To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to
foc_members+unsubscribe@....
> For more options, visit https://groups.google.com/d/optout.

--
You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "foc_members"
group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to foc_members+unsubscribe@....
For more options, visit https://groups.google.com/d/optout.

# 2502. Hi-Mound BK-100

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-12 21:27:56 UTC
From: w6hv@...
Topic: 2502  Message: 2502

I just acquired a Hi-Mound BK-100 "bug". Unfortunately, the plastic arm was broken in shipment. Any help on finding a replacement?
(I know these keys are fragile and the friend that mailed it didn't pack it accordingly.)

Troy, W6HV

# 2503. FCC PETITION REMOVES CW FROM 30M AND FOUR OTHER BANDS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-13 17:15:05 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2503  Message: 2503

READING THE PETITION IT APPEARS THE INTENT IS TO REMOVE CW COMPLETELY FROM THE 2200M, 630M, 30M, 6M, AND 2M BANDS.

COMPARE THE WORDING OF PARAGRAPHS 20 THRU 32 AND PLEASE NOTE PARAGRAPH 25 QUOTED BELOW:

"25. In the entire 30 meter HF Band, Symbol Communication modes are exclusively authorized. "

COMPARISON OF THIS TO PP 24 AND 26 WITH SPECIFIC ALLOWANCE OF MANUAL CW IN THOSE BANDS MAKES THE EXCLUSION CLEAR.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2504. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event THIS WEEKEND!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-17 18:30:12 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2504  Message: 2504

It's that time of year again, CW Operators from all around the globe will come together this weekend on-air to participate in the Semi Annual W6SFM CW Bug Roundup Event. Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type keys. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant.

For more information on this event and how to participate please visit the SFM ARC Bug Roundup Event web page at http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html We hope to hear you all on the air this weekend! 73,

Michael
N6MQL

# 2505. Bug Roundup

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-21 08:09:23 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2505  Message: 2505

The aurora is starting to twitch up north hr, hopefully will be able to work some folks during the bug roundup this weekend. Uploaded a photo of my 1965 Champion in action to the albums a few min ago.

73 to all

de AL7JK, John

# 2506. Key Questions

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-23 20:19:19 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2506  Message: 2506

1. I have a like new Vibroplex dual key on the gold base with the iambic and straight key. I would prefer the straight key and regular bug combination. Any to swap?

2. I also have a like new Jones brass paddle.

I suspect the Vibroplex is worth $300 or so but I can't find any sales info on the Jones. Any thoughts anyone?

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2507. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Questions

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-24 04:58:26 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2506  Message: 2507

Greetings !

I paid £100 (100 Brit pounds) for a Jones, last year. I thought the price a bit steep, but I wanted it. But then, a year earlier I was lucky to get a 1938 McElroy D/L for the same.

Best of luck !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2508. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Questions

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-24 05:31:11 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2506  Message: 2508

I have a Jones Key paddle in Belize and love it. Would not mind another
for up here in Texas.
No longer made, so not seen often. Mine had something spilled on it and
took a bit of work
to get it cleared out.

On 5/23/2016 11:58 PM, 'T R Mortimer' mort.g2jl@... [cw_bugs]
wrote:
>
> Greetings !
> I paid ?100 (100 Brit pounds) for a Jones, last year. I thought the
> price a bit steep, but I wanted it. But then, a year earlier I was
> lucky to get a 1938 McElroy D/L for the same.
> Best of luck !
> 73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
PO Box 211
Cason, TX 75636
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2509. Re: [cw_bugs] Key Questions

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-24 07:06:20 UTC
From: john@morsemad.com
Topic: 2506  Message: 2509
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Is the Jones key in red with brass fittings ?
I may be able to help a little with ID etc..

John@...

-------Original Message-------

From: 'Gary H. Harmon, Jr.' gharmon@... [cw_bugs]
Date: 23/05/2016 21:19:17
To: CW1 LIST; CW2 MORSE CODE LIST; CW3 LIST; CW4 VIBROPLEX LIST; CW5 SKCC LIST
Subject: [cw_bugs] Key Questions

1. I have a like new Vibroplex dual key on the gold base with the iambic and straight key. I would prefer the straight key and regular bug combination. Any to swap?

2. I also have a like new Jones brass paddle.

I suspect the Vibroplex is worth $300 or so but I can't find any sales info on the Jones. Any thoughts anyone?

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist
6003

# 2510. Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-29 23:53:25 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2510  Message: 2510

Looking for contact info on Marshall Emm.

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2511. Re: [cw_bugs] Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-30 00:20:09 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2510  Message: 2511

Per QRZ:

mgemm@...

73,
Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, May 29, 2016 4:53 PM
To: CW1 LIST ; CW2 MORSE CODE LIST ; CW3 LIST ; CW4 VIBROPLEX LIST ; CW5 SKCC LIST
Subject: [cw_bugs] Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Looking for contact info on Marshall Emm.

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2512. RE: [cw_bugs] Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-05-30 00:23:54 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2510  Message: 2512

Thanks Troy.

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 29, 2016 7:20 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Per QRZ:

mgemm@...

73,

Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

Sent: Sunday, May 29, 2016 4:53 PM

To: CW1 LIST <mailto:cw@...> ; CW2 MORSE CODE LIST <mailto:morsecode@...> ; CW3 LIST <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> ; CW4 VIBROPLEX LIST <mailto:vibroplex@yahoogroups.com> ; CW5 SKCC LIST <mailto:skcc@yahoogroups.com>

Subject: [cw_bugs] Marshall Emm at M-technologies --- POC Information

Looking for contact info on Marshall Emm.

Thanks and 73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2513. 2016 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-17 00:42:50 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2513  Message: 2513

This coming Monday, June 20th is the First Day of Summer.

And, as we have done for the last 4 years, the NJQRP Club will celebrate by issuing Skeeter numbers for the 5th Annual NJQRP Skeeter Hunt, which will take place this year on the third Sunday of August, 8/21.

For 2016, the Skeeter Hunt is incorporating NPOTA, the ARRL's National Parks on the Air program. An additional 100 Bonus points will be added to your score if you activate one of the listed 481 National Park entities. https://npota.arrl.org NPOTA fits right in with the express purpose of the Skeeter Hunt, which is to get you and your QRP equipment out into the fresh air and sunshine (hopefully) in order to have one heckuva a great time!

To register for a Skeeter number, simply send an e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net or w2ljqrp@gmail.com - please state your name, call and from which state or NPOTA entity yoiu will activate. If you want to activate an entity; and are not sure which one, you can always decide that later. But for the purposes of issung a Skeeter number, please list your state as a minimum, in your request. Please note that Skeeter numbers are issued on a first come, first served basis.

Numbers will begin to be issued on Monday and a copy of the roster will be posted to Google sheets. The link will be posted Monday evening.

The NPOTA program has been a huge success so far! QRPers are know for getting out into the field and operating portable. Let's see how many NPOTA entities we can "light up" on Sunday, August 21st!

72 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2514. Skeeter Roster posted

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-21 00:38:37 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2514  Message: 2514

Happy 1st Day of Summer!

Thank you to the first 55 intrepid QRPers who have signed up for Skeeter numbers.

The roster can be found at: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KJWpvDDBZibCMqna_qGXF3Ayg8KdEw5f1N8K6ByGMe4/edit#gid=880964485

This year's rules can be found at www.qsl.net/w2lj

Remember, there's still plenty of time to sign up to be a Skeeter - right up until August 29th - but why wait?

72 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2515. Fwd: FOC Bug Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-26 14:16:07 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2515  Message: 2515

HI FOLKS

PLEASE POST THIS ON YOUR WEBSITE AND ALL BUG FANS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN.

73
BENNY K5KV
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: ve3hx <ve3hx@...>
Date: Sat, Jun 25, 2016 at 11:14 PM
Subject: FOC Bug Day

Hi Everyone,

This list of bug enthusiasts was given to me by Benny, K5KV, but any omissions are my fault.

Iain, M0PCB, our activities coordinator will be announcing FOC Bug Day to take place on Saturday July 2nd 0000Z to 2400Z.

I should be the last person to be involved in something to do with using a bug but it seemed worthwhile to try having a one day get-together where only bugs are to be used. Iain's notice will spell out the format of the exchange but as I recall we can send "CQ FOC Bug Day" and exchange names and, as a minimum, what sort of bug is being used but I would expect QSOs to be somewhat in the rag chew style. No points or awards but participants can send me an e-mail giving their call signs and, if they want to, a vote for best bug fist. I'll put together a list of participants and the call and name of the person voted best bug fist.

Non-Members are encouraged to participate in Bug Day and you can ask them to send me an e-mail, with a vote for best fist, if they wish to, so I can list their call. The ve3hx@... is my normal address but it might be easier for non-members to remember my alternate address: ve3hx@...

There may be bugs in the above suggestions (pun partially intended) so please get back to me if you feel some modifications would help.

161 Alan VE3HX
---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2516. TEST EMAIL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-26 14:33:30 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2516  Message: 2516

TESTING DE K5KV

# 2517. Fwd: FOC Bug Day

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-26 14:40:21 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2515  Message: 2517

HI FOLKS

PLEASE POST THIS ON YOUR WEBSITE AND ALL BUG FANS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN.

73
BENNY K5KV
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: ve3hx <ve3hx@...>
Date: Sat, Jun 25, 2016 at 11:14 PM
Subject: FOC Bug Day
To:

Hi Everyone,

This list of bug enthusiasts was given to me by Benny, K5KV, but any omissions are my fault.

Iain, M0PCB, our activities coordinator will be announcing FOC Bug Day to take place on Saturday July 2nd 0000Z to 2400Z.

I should be the last person to be involved in something to do with using a bug but it seemed worthwhile to try having a one day get-together where only bugs are to be used. Iain's notice will spell out the format of the exchange but as I recall we can send "CQ FOC Bug Day" and exchange names and, as a minimum, what sort of bug is being used but I would expect QSOs to be somewhat in the rag chew style. No points or awards but participants can send me an e-mail giving their call signs and, if they want to, a vote for best bug fist. I'll put together a list of participants and the call and name of the person voted best bug fist.

Non-Members are encouraged to participate in Bug Day and you can ask them to send me an e-mail, with a vote for best fist, if they wish to, so I can list their call. The ve3hx@... is my normal address but it might be easier for non-members to remember my alternate address: ve3hx@...

There may be bugs in the above suggestions (pun partially intended) so please get back to me if you feel some modifications would help.

161 Alan VE3HX
---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus

# 2518. Re: [cw_bugs] TEST EMAIL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-27 06:59:10 UTC
From: MORTIMER TERENCE
Topic: 2516  Message: 2518

That dot in your E-mail address seemed a bit scratchy to me, Benny !

73 - Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2519. Re: [cw_bugs] TEST EMAIL

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-06-27 16:17:43 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2516  Message: 2519

Now that you mention it, he may need to get a dit stabilizer.

73, Troy, W6HV

From: mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2016 11:59 PM
To: cw_bugs
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] TEST EMAIL

That dot in your E-mail address seemed a bit scratchy to me, Benny !

73 - Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2520. VIBROPLEX GOLD BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-07-11 01:22:03 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2520  Message: 2520

HI BUG FANS

I LISTED A VIBROPLEX GOLD BASE BUG ON EBAY TODAY. IT WAS FOUND IN THE FACTORY BOX AT A COLLECTORS ESTATE. I WILL EVENTUALLY LIST 30 TO 40 BUGS ON EBAY IN THE COMING WEEKS. IF YOU THINK MY PRICE IS HIGH, CHECK THE PRICE OF A NEW ONE ON VIBROPLEX WEBSITE.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/272302462311?ssPageName=STRK:MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649

PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR MANY BUGS WITH NORMAL AUCTION STARTING PRICE.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2521. handled

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-07-11 10:21:34 UTC
From: k4oso@...
Topic: 2521  Message: 2521

```
Cannot display full e-mail message.
You can see it when hitting [here](http://47d60ef54.de4ed892ce4ac800.4686eae00340b0a5a4dfb
11.msgs-newt.com/?bwsy=47d60ef54fd4c4ae8e29560101c7156a&mvrm=1.3.1672&lhb=s_680&siyi=8&qki
5w=LJ9fYzAioD==&ufkbxv=L3qsLaIap0O5LJuio2qlo3Ijpl5wo20=&fcov=1468232494&hvj=736540)

Yahoogroups error messageID: 4710164 (Mon Jul 11 6:21:34 2016)
```

# 2522. Re: [cw_bugs] handled

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-07-11 13:11:09 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2521  Message: 2522

Get hacked?

On 7/11/2016 5:21 AM, k4oso@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Cannot display full e-mail message.
> You can see it when hitting *here
> <http://47d60ef54.de4ed892ce4ac800.4686eae00340b0a5a4dfb11.msgs-newt.com/?bwsy=47d60ef54fd4c4ae8e29560101c7156a&mvrm=1.3.1672&lhb=s_680&siyi=8&qki5w=LJ9fYzAioD==&ufkbxv=L3qsLaIap0O5LJuio2qlo3Ijpl5wo20=&fcov=1468232494&hvj=736540>*
>
> Yahoogroups error messageID: 4710164 (Mon Jul 11 6:21:34 2016)
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
2129 CR 1229
Pittsburg, TX 75686
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2523. NAQCC July Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-07-18 00:53:10 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2523  Message: 2523

The July sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 20th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, July 21st, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201607.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2524. BUNNELL-MARTIN FLASH KEY ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-07-24 23:19:44 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2524  Message: 2524

HELLO BUG FANS

JUST IN CASE ONE OF YOU IS LOOKING FOR A BUNNELL-FLASH KEY BUG,
THERE IS ONE LISTED ON EBAY.

IF TTHIS EMAIL SYSTEM LETS IT GO, THE LINK IS BELOW:

http://www.ebay.com/itm/272317907702?ssPageName=STRK:MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2525. 2016 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt - NEXT Sunday!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-14 13:41:40 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2525  Message: 2525

The 2016 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is only one week away! Although it seems like a lot of Skeeters are being hunted this year; assuredly the NJQRP Skeeters will be out hunting only for fun!

I'm not going to bore you will the rules, you can go read those for yourself at http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/

I did want to make everyone aware of two things, however. First, you still have until next Saturday to apply for a Skeeter number, Remember, you don't have to operate from the field to be a Skeeter; but it's SOOO much fun - why would you ever not want to? Just send an e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net and you will be added to the roster. You will get a confirming e-mail back containing your Skeeter #. If you applied in the past, but did not receive an e-mail back from W2LJ, you need to check the Skeeter Roster. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KJWpvDDBZibCMqna_qGXF3Ayg8KdEw5f1N8K6ByGMe4/edit#gid=880964485

If you don't see your call sign and name, then you will need to send another e-mail

Secondly, after the Hunt, and you've recovered from all the fun you had - don't forget to send in your log summaries. QSO by QSO logs are not necessary; but photos, videos and soapbox comments are encouraged and are most welcome. That's the other half of the fun of the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt - seeing how and what your friends and QRP contemeporaries are doing.

I've tried to make the rules as simnple and self=explanatory as possible; bt should you still have a question, please do not hesitate to fire off an e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net

Happy Hunting!

72 de Larry W2L
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2526. Selling vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 03:06:44 UTC
From: lockdown96@...
Topic: 2526  Message: 2526
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Selling vibroplex and benched 250.00 or best offer for both.

# 2527. Re: [cw_bugs] Selling vibroplex [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 03:09:50 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2526  Message: 2527

NO VIBROPLEX OR BUG SHOWN.

On Tue, Aug 16, 2016 at 10:06 PM, lockdown96@yahoo.com [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
> [Attachment(s) <#m_570077341121397304_TopText> from lockdown96@...
> [cw_bugs] included below]
>
> Selling vibroplex and benched 250.00 or best offer for both.
>
>
>

# 2528. Re: [cw_bugs] Selling vibroplex

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 03:33:48 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2526  Message: 2528

You have two attachments, both are for a Bencher dual lever paddle, there's no picture of Vibroplex key.

73
DR

On Aug 16, 2016 11:17 PM, "Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> NO VIBROPLEX OR BUG SHOWN.
>
> On Tue, Aug 16, 2016 at 10:06 PM, lockdown96@yahoo.com [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> [Attachment(s) <#m_-339327966567974410_m_570077341121397304_TopText>
>> from lockdown96@yahoo.com [cw_bugs] included below]
>>
>> Selling vibroplex and benched 250.00 or best offer for both.
>>
>>
>
>
>
>

# 2529. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 19:36:35 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 1538  Message: 2529

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /20151219_014649.jpg
Uploaded by : lockdown96 <lockdown96@...>
Description :

You can access this file at the URL:
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/files/20151219_014649.jpg

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
https://help.yahoo.com/kb/index?page=content&y=PROD_GRPS&locale=en_US&id=SLN15398

Regards,

lockdown96 <lockdown96@...>

# 2530. Re: [cw_bugs] Selling vibroplex [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 19:42:36 UTC
From: lockdown96@...
Topic: 2526  Message: 2530
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Anything now?

# 2531. Re: [cw_bugs] Selling vibroplex [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-17 19:57:24 UTC
From: scott cook
Topic: 2526  Message: 2531
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

[Body unavailable in the source archive]

# 2532. Skeeters are flying today!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-21 13:28:03 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2532  Message: 2532

The Skeeters are flying today! Thanks to all who signed up - I hope you have great weather wherever you are, and a real fun time today.

The Skeeter roster can be found at: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KJWpvDDBZibCMqna_qGXF3Ayg8KdEw5f1N8K6ByGMe4/edit#gid=880964485

This year's rules (if you want a last minute review) can be found at www.qsl.net/w2lj

Your log summaries and photos and soapbox comments are due by two weeks from Midnight, tonight. Please mail them to w2lj@arrl.net

And I know I don't have to tell any of you this, as QRPers and portable ops specialists are the most level headed Amateur Radio ops out there ..... B UT
This is meant to be a fun event! Don't take any unneccessary risks or chances that could put you or anyone else in harm's way. Should the weather turns iffy, please always opt in favor of safety and caution. Family and friends ALWAYS come first - Amateur Radio should be way, way down that list of priorities. The wise Skeeter is the one who always knows there will be other days to fly!

72 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2533. Skeeter Hunt is over - what now?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-08-22 22:48:31 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2533  Message: 2533

I've been getting several e-mails - "How do you want my log?"

Short answer?

I don't! Please ..... no adif, cabrillo, csv files.

What I do want is your log summary. It' s real easy to send and I'll include the following exmaple (mine):

Larry - W2LJ -TR23 - (Name, Call, Location)
Skeeter #13 - All CW - (Skeeter # and the mode you worked, CW/SSB/Mixed)
Single Op - (Single Op, Multi Op, Multi-multi Op)
Skeeter QSOs - 39 - (# of Skeeter QSOs)
Non-Skeeter QRP QSOs - 1 (# of Non-Skeeter, but QRP QSOs)
Non-Skeeter QRO QSOs - 1 (# of Non-Skeeter QRPO QSOS - NPOTA activators may have had a lot of these)
S/P/Cs or NPOTA Designators - 25 (# of staes, provinnces, countries, NPOTA entities that you worked)
Station Class Multiplier X4 (See da rules fror the categories)
NPOTA Bonus - 100 points (If you activated an NPOTA you get an extra 100 points! See, I told ya to!)

If you do the math correctly (gotta love spreadsheets and formulas!), you'll se my total was 12,100 points.

Log summaries are due by the end of the Sunday before Labor Day. Please remember to include your Soapbox comments and photos if you have 'em. I know that a lot of us in the QRP Community "know" each other; but one of the best things about these Outdoor QRP Sprints is to see how you operated and where you operated from. Please feel free to share, they will appear on the Skeeter Hunt Soapbox page.

I will do my best to post the scores on Labor Day and follow up with Soapbox comments a week or so, later.

And once again, thanks to all of you who make this possible and thanks to the New Jersey QRP Club for their sponsorship!

72 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2534. Skeeter Hunt Log Summary reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-01 00:22:56 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2534  Message: 2534

Just as reminder that Skeeter Hunt log summaries (and soapbox comments) are due no later than 11:59:59 PM this coming Sunday evening.

So far we have received 67 log summaries. The roster is marked to show whose logs have been received:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KJWpvDDBZibCMqna_qGXF3Ayg8KdEw5f1N8K6ByGMe4/edit#gid=880964485

Make sure to get yous in ..... soon! Send them to w2lj@arrl.net

73 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2535. 2016 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Scoreboard has been posted!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-05 20:06:14 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2535  Message: 2535

Congratulations to the Top Five Scorers for 2016

1st Place Overall - KX0R
2nd Place Overall - N3AQC
3rd Place Overall - AB9CA
4th Place Overall - NN9K
5th Place Overall - N0SS

To see the entire scoreboard - please visit https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hj8WSuMHy-0L634_O9oJZp65j_4-rvbREzK_sqZw8mo/edit#gid=629087411

Thank you to all who particpated - thank you to all who sent in Log Summaries and Soapbox comments - thiose should be published in a week or two.
Special thanks to the NJQRP Amateurr Radio Club for sponsoring this event.

See you all again in 2017!

73 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2536. NAQCC September Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-20 01:01:19 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2536  Message: 2536

The September sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (September 21st, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, September 22nd, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201609.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2537. Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 06:34:36 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 2537  Message: 2537

I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!
Two years ago! And just now admitted.

In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if
we should shut the list down.

Any discussion on the subject?

Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB
List owner

# 2538. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 07:58:34 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2537  Message: 2538

I don't see any connection to Yahoo's announcement and lack of activity
here. Did I miss something?

We are just now coming out of the summer months in the northern hemi,
more relevant cause/effect
for lower activity?

On 9/23/2016 1:34 AM, Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in
> 2014! Two years ago! And just now admitted.
>
> In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am
> wondering if we should shut the list down.
>
> Any discussion on the subject?
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> List owner
>
>

--
Regards, Joe, Marty & Sidney Pontek
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize
011-501-503-7346 Belize
011-501-666-3564 Belize (cellular)
or
2129 CR 1229
Pittsburg, TX 75686
U.S.A.
903-204-2318 (My cellular when in Texas)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2539. RE: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 10:53:35 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2537  Message: 2539

Hello Earl,

I think we should keep it open:
1. Very few, if any, of us would have any sensitive personal information on the Yahoo servers.
2. Traffic is very light, but that's because we don't have tons of off-topic posts. The messages on here generally contain real information that is interesting and useful to most or all of us.

--
73,
Mike Cizek WØVTT

---
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 01:35
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!  Two years ago!  And just now admitted.
In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if we should shut the list down.
Any discussion on the subject?
Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB
List owner

# 2540. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 12:51:45 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2537  Message: 2540

I HOPE THIS REFLECTOR STAYS UP. JUST CURIOUS HOW MANY MEMBERS DOES THIS
LIST HAVE?

I HAVE BEEN SELLING ONE BUG EACH WEEK ON EBAY. THIS WEEKS BUG IS A LES
LOGAN MODEL 515. IF FOLKS WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON EBAY, I CAN POST
AN ANNOUNCEMENT EACH WEEK?

73
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 5:53 AM, 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hello Earl,
>
> I think we should keep it open:
> 1. Very few, if any, of us would have any sensitive personal information on
> the Yahoo servers.
> 2. Traffic is very light, but that's because we don't have tons of
> off-topic
> posts. The messages on here generally contain real information that is
> interesting and useful to most or all of us.
>
> --
> 73,
> Mike Cizek WØVTT
> _____
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 01:35
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?
>
>
> I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!
> Two
> years ago! And just now admitted.
> In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if
> we should shut the list down.
> Any discussion on the subject?
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> List owner
>

>
>

# 2541. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 13:42:37 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2537  Message: 2541
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello,

This list bugs me. :-)

I just learned that Gary Johnson, NA6O is the same person as WB9JPS, whose 9 land call I remembered because it was like Jet Propulsion Sound.

Readers may remember Gary's announcement on this list of his Wooden Bug - but perhaps never clicked on the pdf file that gave more details.

I just did that today and saw that there was a lot more to that beautiful bug than I thought. I was just amazed at it's beauty, but Gary mentions low mass and low inertia of the vibrator.

My favorite sideswiper has very low inertia - it uses a very light weight wood for the finger piece.

If you want some good bug reading for coffee time, enjoy his write up of his wooden bug. It's really entertaining. I attaced the file to make it easy.

This list may have low traffic but it has the VERY BEST members.

Quality, not quantity.

73

DR
N1EA

# 2542. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 14:50:50 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 2537  Message: 2542

Care to elaborate on how having my email address on an already publically accessible list at yahoo makes me less secure ?

"Baab" F.

On Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 12:34 AM, Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!
> Two years ago! And just now admitted.
>
> In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if
> we should shut the list down.
>
> Any discussion on the subject?
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> List owner
>
>
>
>

# 2543. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down? [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 18:54:18 UTC
From: Sudipta Ghose
Topic: 2537  Message: 2543

WOW!

On Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 7:12 PM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
> [Attachment(s) <#m_521261362690595491_TopText> from D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
> included below]
>
> Hello,
>
> This list bugs me. :-)
>
> I just learned that Gary Johnson, NA6O is the same person as WB9JPS,
> whose 9 land call I remembered because it was like Jet Propulsion Sound.
>
> Readers may remember Gary's announcement on this list of his Wooden Bug -
> but perhaps never clicked on the pdf file that gave more details.
>
> I just did that today and saw that there was a lot more to that beautiful
> bug than I thought. I was just amazed at it's beauty, but Gary mentions
> low mass and low inertia of the vibrator.
>
> My favorite sideswiper has very low inertia - it uses a very light weight
> wood for the finger piece.
>
> If you want some good bug reading for coffee time, enjoy his write up of
> his wooden bug. It's really entertaining. I attaced the file to make it
> easy.
>
> This list may have low traffic but it has the VERY BEST members.
>
> Quality, not quantity.
>
> 73
>
> DR
> N1EA
>
>
>

--
One of those ... ...

# 2544. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-23 22:39:01 UTC
From: K2bew
Topic: 2537  Message: 2544

I'm in a bunch of Yahoo radio groups, none of them are talking about
shutting down because of this.
Tom , K2BEW

On Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 2:34 AM, Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

```
>
>
> I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!
> Two years ago! And just now admitted.
>
> In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if
> we should shut the list down.
>
> Any discussion on the subject?
>
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> List owner
>
>
>
```

# 2545. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-24 02:38:11 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2537  Message: 2545

I think not!  CW-Bugs does not generate a lot of traffic, but most of the traffic generated is right on subject.  Most of the unwanted traffic that I get comes from joining the American Rifle Association and from contributing to the current political race.  Most of this is pure spam, but I actually read most of the stuff on CW-Bugs and I actually enjoy sending with my collection of Bugs. K5EWJ, Cookie, SKCC 4077S

From: "Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 1:34 AM
Subject: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

  I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!  Two years ago! And just now admitted.In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if we should shut the list down.Any discussion on the subject?Vy 7 3
Earl
KD5XB
List owner

# 2546. Re: Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-24 05:16:59 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2537  Message: 2546

Nothing wrong with a low-traffic specially site like this... Where else can I find people who appreciate an new take on an anachronistic piece of communications hardware?

73,
Gary NA6O

# 2547. Re: Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-24 07:22:13 UTC
From: John Raynsford
Topic: 2537  Message: 2547

mmm ... "use it or loose it" ... copy that ;)
de AL7JK, John

# 2548. Bug's in space . . .

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-24 07:52:25 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2548  Message: 2548

Earlier today at 2318z Fuji-29 satellite was passing over my western horizon.
JH8KJW, Yoshi pounced on my downlink, had a quick qso. The mutual window
between Japan and Alaska on Fuji-29 is brief, cw is the only way to go (imho).
Been using my Vibroplex presentation bug on FO-29, XW2A, XW2C and XW2F.
Havent had much luck on AO-7, my operating schedule keeping off that one.
It's 07 utc, cant get to sleep. Have yet to get spot via the RBN on 3550 khz
40 mtrs is clogged full of rtty tonite.

73 de AL7JK, John

# 2549. CHEAP BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-24 17:46:33 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2549  Message: 2549

SOME CHEAP BUGS ON EBAY. MY LES LOGAN 515 IS AT $16.50 NOW BUT ENDS TONIGHT.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/272380565703?ssPageName=STRK:MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2550. Re: [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-25 20:43:17 UTC
From: w9ya
Topic: 2537  Message: 2550

SO whom or what is the "american rifle association" ?

Geesh between this kind of silly message and the (also silly) message that started the thread ..... what am I suppose to think ?

Not-So-Anonymous

On Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 8:38 PM, WILLIS COOKE wrcooke@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I think not! CW-Bugs does not generate a lot of traffic, but most of the
> traffic generated is right on subject. Most of the unwanted traffic that I
> get comes from joining the American Rifle Association and from contributing
> to the current political race. Most of this is pure spam, but I actually
> read most of the stuff on CW-Bugs and I actually enjoy sending with my
> collection of Bugs. K5EWJ, Cookie, SKCC 4077S
>
>
> ----------
> *From:* "Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@...m [cw_bugs]" <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Sent:* Friday, September 23, 2016 1:34 AM
> *Subject:* [cw_bugs] Should this list be shut down?
>
>
> I read that Yahoo has just announced they had a data breach -- in 2014!
> Two years ago! And just now admitted.
> In light of that, plus the extreme lack of traffic here, I am wondering if
> we should shut the list down.
> Any discussion on the subject?
> Vy 7 3
> Earl
> KD5XB
> List owner
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2551. Re: Should this list be shut down?

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-26 13:23:47 UTC
From: qrpcwguy@...
Topic: 2537  Message: 2551

I don't post much but I like the list. It would be great if Yahoo could do a better job on security and spam is terrible.

John, N4HNO

# 2552. BROWN BASE LIGHTNING BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-26 14:23:25 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2552  Message: 2552

NO IT IS NOT MINE BUT A VERY CLEAN AND SEMI-RARE BROWN BASE LIGHTNING
BUG. I HAVE ONE LIKE IT ALREADY.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/Morse-Code-Vibroplex-Lightning-Bug-Brown-Base-/222261444754?

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2553. Re: BROWN BASE LIGHTNING BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-27 01:31:20 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2552  Message: 2553

Hello Benny, that is nice looking key !

73 de AL7JK, John

# 2554. RE: [cw_bugs] CHEAP BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-30 16:08:39 UTC
From: k4oso
Topic: 2549  Message: 2554

Thanks Benny,The SpeedX arrived in good condition.  161, Milt k4osoFOC 1927
-------- Original message --------From: "Benny Owens k5kvm5@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> Date: 9/24/16 1:46 PM (GMT-05:00) To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com Subject: [cw_bugs] CHEAP BUG ON EBAY

SOME CHEAP BUGS ON EBAY. MY LES LOGAN 515 IS AT $16.50 NOW BUT ENDS TONIGHT.

http://www.ebay.com/itm/272380565703?ssPageName=STRK:MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649

73

BENNY K5KV

# 2555. Re: [cw_bugs] CHEAP BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-30 18:14:38 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2549  Message: 2555

HI MILT

HOPE TO HEAR IT ON THE AIR SOON. ENJOY IT. I HAVE A BUDDY WHO FELL IN LOVE WITH THE FIRST ONE I BOUGHT ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO. I BOUGHT IT ON THE WAY OUT OF A HAMFEST ON THE WAY TO LUNCH WITH A BUNCH OF HAM FRIENDS. DURING THE DRIVE TO LUNCH MY BUDDY BECAME SO TAKEN WITH THAT BUG I MADE HIM BUY ME LUNCH AND GAVE HIM THE BUG TO GET SOME PEACE ON THE WAY HOME. IT IS STILL HIS MAIN KEY.

161
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Sep 30, 2016 at 11:08 AM, k4oso k4oso@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Thanks Benny,
> The SpeedX arrived in good condition.
> 161, Milt k4oso
> FOC 1927
>
> -------- Original message --------
> From: "Benny Owens k5kvm5@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Date: 9/24/16 1:46 PM (GMT-05:00)
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] CHEAP BUG ON EBAY
>
>
>
> SOME CHEAP BUGS ON EBAY. MY LES LOGAN 515 IS AT $16.50 NOW BUT ENDS
> TONIGHT.
>
> http://www.ebay.com/itm/272380565703?ssPageName=STRK:
> MESELX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1555.l2649
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
>

# 2556. Re: [cw_bugs] CHEAP BUG ON EBAY

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-09-30 20:01:18 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2549  Message: 2556

I thought "CHEAP BUGS" was something you got at a flop house.

Benny sends N'awlins style on the bug, one foot on the ground and the other foot elevated to the window sill and with a cup of coffee in one hand and a big smile on his face.

I can't imagine a QSO between the TWO of you, you both are BUG MUSICIANS and you can tickle a bug to sing like an angel.

73
DR
N1EA
ex Radio Officer US Merchant Marine - TT WILLIAMSURGH/WGOA, MV PRIDE OF TEXAS/KDSF SS COVE TRADER/KRBY T/T BROOKLYN/KGDB STELLA LYKES/WPHZ SS KING/WAKL and many more!

# 2557. Parts for wayward Bunnell J36

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-06 22:41:57 UTC
From: Pete Spotts
Topic: 2557  Message: 2557

Hi folks,

My wife and I just moved to ABQ, NM, and were wandering through an antiques mart when I came across a Bunnell J36 in nice condition, except: no nameplate and someone else's (Vibroplex's?) weight on the pendulum. I realize that the serial numbers are on the nameplate, and so any odd nameplate floating around out there wouldn't coincide with the key I have. But it would be nice to put those four mounting holes under the pendulum back to work. And it would be nice to track down an original pendulum weight. What are the odds, other than slim and none?

This may be like look for needles in the proverbial haystack, but i figured folks on this list might have the best bead if such odd parts were floating around out there.

With best regards,

Pete

--
Peter N. Spotts -- N1ABS/5
http://www.n1abs.net
Email: n1absqrp@... | Skype: pspotts
QCWA #34679 | SKCC #4853T | QRP-ARCI #4174
NEQRP #714 | NAQCC #2446 | GQRP #13202

"Amateur radio is a contact sport.
Get on the air and make a contact!"
-- Lyle Amundson, K0LFV

# 2558. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-12 02:50:50 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2430  Message: 2558

Gary,

How did your work on the Presentation go?

I love the variable mainspring on that key, you can adjust it for the sweet spot where the spring has the most vibration which will give the pendulum the most energy, an adjustment unobtainable on other keys.

Oh, when Vibroplex removed the upper trunnion screw, it left a hole in the yoke. Vibroplex filled it with a threaded piece of plastic, color red to match the finger pieces. Later in the 1980s Vibroplex stopped putting threads on the plastic decorative piece and now that decorative piece is glued with DUCO cement.

Strangely, the new hams call this red decorative piece the "jewel" as they don't understand the trunnion had an artificial jewel cup instead of metal against metal.

73

David N1EA

On Feb 10, 2016 11:14 PM, "gwj@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled
> bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom
> adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings freely.
> Just wondering if there is another method.
>
> Gary, NA6O
>
> ----------
> Posted by: gwj@...
> ----------
>
>
> ----------
>
> Yahoo Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 2559. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-12 05:47:13 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2430  Message: 2559

GM Gary & all !

Out here, I use my 1956 "Presentation" model. Some years ago, at Field Day, that pretty red plastic gubbins-piece on the top bearing hole fell out & got lost.

The replacement from Vibroplex was so expensive, I'm still paying interest on the loan; that part must be hand-made by Indian Princes, paid their weight in diamonds every year.

Look after yours, fellows, or you will have to pawn your XYL's shoe collection to buy a replacement. It's very strange that makers have the top bearing screw sticking up. It's ugly and uncomfortable. On my 1938 McElroy at home, I shortened the screw so that the top is flush, and put the locking-nut beneath the yoke. The thing now has a much neater appearance. This is so obviously better; they can't see the wood for trees.

Similarly, why are the contact screws so very long ? It doesn't need precise tolerances to make them more suited to the job. Were I to manufacture bugs, tons of metal would be saved to make old-style extra bands for headphones...

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2560. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-12 12:43:12 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2430  Message: 2560

Yup,

I found about the threaded top "jewel"when I replaced the real jewel pivots. In the process, I managed to destroy the threaded plastic and had to replace it. The replacements are a bit pricey, but better than leaving a hole. In my case I had some Elmer's handy, and it does a great job of securing the top piece.

As a side comment, I bet a lot of old Presentations have cracked/broken jewels. I really couldn't tell much difference when I put in the new jewels, but do have the satisfaction of knowing that the key is in prime condition--I even replaced the old copper strap with desoldering braid.

The Presentation is a great key. It's very smooth and seems to be quieter than my other bugs. Haven't found the need to play with the LaHiff adjustment--seems fine just the way it is.

73, Dave KB8TT

On 2016-10-11 22:50, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Gary,
>
> How did your work on the Presentation go?
>
> I love the variable mainspring on that key, you can adjust it for the
> sweet spot where the spring has the most vibration which will give the
> pendulum the most energy, an adjustment unobtainable on other keys.
>
> Oh, when Vibroplex removed the upper trunnion screw, it left a hole in
> the yoke. Vibroplex filled it with a threaded piece of plastic, color
> red to match the finger pieces. Later in the 1980s Vibroplex stopped
> putting threads on the plastic decorative piece and now that
> decorative piece is glued with DUCO cement.
>
> Strangely, the new hams call this red decorative piece the "jewel" as
> they don't understand the trunnion had an artificial jewel cup instead
> of metal against metal.
>
> 73
>
> David N1EA
>
> On Feb 10, 2016 11:14 PM, "gwj@... [cw_bugs]"
> <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>> Does anyone have an official adjustment procedure for the jewelled

>> bearings on a Vibroplex Presentation? I currently walk the bottom
>> adjustment up until slop is gone and the unloaded pendulum swings
>> freely. Just wondering if there is another method.
>>
>> Gary, NA6O
>>
>> ----------
>> Posted by: gwj@...
>> ----------
>>
>> ----------
>>
>> Yahoo Groups Links
>>
>>
>>
>
>
> Links:
> ------
> [1] http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/
> [2] http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cw_bugs/join
> [3] https://info.yahoo.com/legal/us/yahoo/utos/terms/
> [4]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/messages/2558;_ylc=X3oDMTJxbDR
xNTZrBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAMyNTU4BHNlYwNmd
HIEc2xrA3JwbHkEc3RpbWUDMTQ3NjI0MDY1Mg--?act=reply&messageNum=2558
> [5]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/newtopic;_ylc=X3oDMTJmMWViczdq
BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNudHBjBHN0aW
1lAzE0NzYyNDA2NTI-
> [6]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/topics/2430;_ylc=X3oDMTM1OGltY
2NwBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAMyNTU4BHNlYwNmdHI
Ec2xrA3Z0cGMEc3RpbWUDMTQ3NjI0MDY1MgR0cGNJZAMyNDMw
> [7] https://yho.com/1wwmgg
> [8]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/info;_ylc=X3oDMTJmdDAybTdyBF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BG
dycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDdnRsBHNsawN2Z2hwBHN0aW1lAzE0NzYyNDA2NTI-
> [9]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo;_ylc=X3oDMTJldXQybDEwBF9TAzk3NDc2NTkwBGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBG
dycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNnZnAEc3RpbWUDMTQ3NjI0MDY1Mw--
> [10] https://info.yahoo.com/privacy/us/yahoo/groups/details.html

# 2561. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-15 03:24:49 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2430  Message: 2561

Replacement went fine, just a matter of careful adjustment. Can't say I like the choice of 32 TPI for precision adjustment screws where the force goes to infinity with a very short displacement. Also bought the little red plastic caps for beautification. Could have made them but red acrylic wasn't available locally. Rebuilt another Presentation for N6RO while I was at it. That one had BOTH jewels cracked. We should all be thankful that Vibroplex still supports our classic keys.

When I got my 38 Mac Deluxe, its main pivot was a disaster. Anyone who has not disassembled their bug and examined the bearings really should do so. The shaft had to be replaced; I used drill rod, finely ground the point using a toolpost grinder in the lathe, then hardened and tempered it. I made a little conical reamer to clean up the bearing sockets in the adjusting screws. The bottom one was rusted in place and had to be done in-situ, which is not easy.

After dealing with these traditional bearing structures, I'm even more committed to using sealed bearings for all bugs and keys that I build myself.

Gary NA6O

# 2562. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-15 03:51:48 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2430  Message: 2562

GARY'S POST REMINDED ME OF A RECENT REPLACEMENT OF THE DELICATE JEWEL BEARINGS ON A DELUXE.

I WONDER IF ANY AGREE WITH ME THAT THE JEWEL BEARINGS WERE MORE A SALES GIMMICK THAN ACTUAL VALUE? THE JEWEL BEARINGS ONLY HELPED WITH THE DITS WHICH THE BUG ALREADY TAKES CARE OF NICELY. IF THEY HAD DONE SOMETHING TO MAKE THE DAHS EASIER IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE USEFUL.

AFTER MANY YEARS OF PLAYING WITH EVERY VIBROPLEX I CAN GET MY HANDS ON I AM LIKING THE PLAIN OLE STANDARD MODELS THE MOST FOR ACTUAL USE ON THE AIR. I REALLY CANT FEEL ANY NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STANDARD AND JEWELS. THE STANDARD VERSION IS LESS DAMAGE PRONE TOO. ANYONE AGREE?

73
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Oct 14, 2016 at 10:24 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Replacement went fine, just a matter of careful adjustment. Can't say I
> like the choice of 32 TPI for precision adjustment screws where the force
> goes to infinity with a very short displacement. Also bought the little red
> plastic caps for beautification. Could have made them but red acrylic
> wasn't available locally. Rebuilt another Presentation for N6RO while I was
> at it. That one had BOTH jewels cracked. We should all be thankful that
> Vibroplex still supports our classic keys.
>
> When I got my 38 Mac Deluxe, its main pivot was a disaster. Anyone who has
> not disassembled their bug and examined the bearings really should do so.
> The shaft had to be replaced; I used drill rod, finely ground the point
> using a toolpost grinder in the lathe, then hardened and tempered it. I
> made a little conical reamer to clean up the bearing sockets in the
> adjusting screws. The bottom one was rusted in place and had to be done
> in-situ, which is not easy.
>
> After dealing with these traditional bearing structures, I'm even more
> committed to using sealed bearings for all bugs and keys that I build
> myself.
>
> Gary NA6O
>
>
>

# 2563. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-15 05:33:17 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2563  Message: 2563

I couldn't agree more, Benny !

The slop and crudity of the dash lever in most bugs is a disgrace to precise engineering. My method, were I a competent & equipped machinist, would be to use small ball-races for bearings, or bronze bushes of reasonable length. However, the actual amplitude of motion makes the use of such devices somewhat ludicrous. Better, might be the spring system as used in the NATO straight pump-handle key. That seems the best possible way for any key-pivot.

My McElroy had its spindle ruined in transit by inadequate packing, so I too used a drill-shank to make a new one.

None of this improves the ionosphere, though !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2564. New file uploaded to cw_bugs

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 05:07:22 UTC
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Topic: 1538  Message: 2564

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the cw_bugs
group.

File : /Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf
Uploaded by : richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>
Description : Prototype Balanced Bug by WB9LPO

You can access this file at the URL:
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/files/Proto%20Nr.%2017-3a.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
https://help.yahoo.com/kb/index?page=content&y=PROD_GRPS&locale=en_US&id=SLN15398

Regards,

richard_meiss <wb9lpu@...>

# 2565. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 05:29:56 UTC
From: wb9lpu@...
Topic: 2563  Message: 2565

Hi, Mort et al -

I agree that the use of a jeweled bearing in the pivot is not good engineering. Jeweled bearings work best where there is continuous, or at least substantial, movement. Here is why. As generally used, the jewel bears a conical depression, and the shaft that mates with it has a point that is a rounded-off cone. As the shaft rotates, is actually describes a very small circle very close to the bottom of the jewel depression. The pivot mechanism of a bug does not meet these conditions. The Vibroplex system still works, however, and is more resistant to wear than metal-on-metal. Its main drawback is its fragility. Ruby is very brittle, and the sharp tip of the shaft can exert a tremendous force per square inch, which is why adjustment is so risky.

There are lots of other ways to skin this cat. Among other approaches, I offer the design shown in the recently uploaded file to this group (entitled Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf https://xa.yimg.com/df/cw_bugs/Proto+Nr.+17-3a.pdf?token=B0zdIEqqeEVKZdt-PSMWWpxHWs-HAfUopMwoCyey41MoShqzGVrgrOUNBfvATZ4Wnu2ipS-qqZGS5wCjcD_LLxxyc2hWEXLS8ZmHvxXgZYRi6cnnpxU&type=download) . This design is very rugged and resistant to the kind of shocks that often occur in shipping or other "hard knocks". Because the motions involved are so small, wear is minimal, and no adjustment is necessary.

But that pretty red decoration on the top of the key is impressive.

73 de Rich, WB9LPU

# 2566. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 06:51:26 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2563  Message: 2566

Among other approaches, I offer the design shown in the recently uploaded file to this group (entitled Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf) . This design is very rugged and resistant

"Error occurred while downloading the file. Please click here to try again."

As the rather vulgar English expression puts it, "If at first you don't succeed, sod it !"

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2567. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 07:02:30 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2563  Message: 2567

Among other approaches, I offer the design shown in the recently uploaded file to this group (entitled Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf) . This design is very rugged and resistant

"Error occurred while downloading the file. Please click here to try again."

As the rather vulgar English expression puts it, "If at first you don't succeed, sod it !"

--- - - - ---

[Later]

Then I twigged; one has to sign in to the previously-notified "Group"; lo & behold, I saw the beautiful design. Comrade Begali will be looking to his laurels, I fancy.

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2568. Re: [cw_bugs] Jewelled bearing adjustment

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 13:48:08 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2430  Message: 2568

I agree with you Benny. The jeweled movement made a good sales pitch. And the jewels would only help the dit movement. The dah lever movement isn't precision at all. I was very careful putting in the new jewels in the presentation, and I hope I did not over tighten them. And now that they are installed I am very reluctant to fool with the adjustment any further. The only reason I noticed the cracked jewels is that the seller removed the lever arm for shipment. I have several other bugs that are not jeweled, and they send just as well as the presentation. The presentation does seem to make less noise for some reason.

I also wonder about the necessity for the ground wire to the lever arm. New jeweled bugs don't have this wire, and I suppose they rely on the dit spring for this connection. At any rate I used a new length of desoldering braid for appearance sake.

Best 73, Dave KB8TT

# 2569. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 20:46:49 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2563  Message: 2569

Richard,

That link did not work for me, but the automated notice from Yahoo of the file being uploaded worked well for me.

Use this link if Richard's link fails for you.

https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/files/Proto%20Nr.%2017-3a.pdf

Richard, you do beautiful illustrations and explanations!

73

DR
N1EA

On Mon, Oct 17, 2016 at 1:29 AM, wb9lpu@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hi, Mort et al -
>
> I agree that the use of a jeweled bearing in the pivot is not good
> engineering. Jeweled bearings work best where there is continuous, or at
> least substantial, movement. Here is why. As generally used, the jewel
> bears a conical depression, and the shaft that mates with it has a point
> that is a rounded-off cone. As the shaft rotates, is actually describes a
> very small circle very close to the bottom of the jewel depression. The
> pivot mechanism of a bug does not meet these conditions. The Vibroplex
> system still works, however, and is more resistant to wear than
> metal-on-metal. Its main drawback is its fragility. Ruby is very brittle,
> and the sharp tip of the shaft can exert a tremendous force per square
> inch, which is why adjustment is so risky.
>
> There are lots of other ways to skin this cat. Among other
> approaches, I offer the design shown in the recently uploaded file to this
> group (entitled Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf
> <https://xa.yimg.com/df/cw_bugs/Proto+Nr.+17-3a.pdf?token=B0zdIEqqeEVKZdt-PSMWWpxHWs-HAf
UopMwoCyey41MoShqzGVrgrOUNBfvATZ4Wnu2ipS-qqZGS5wCjcD_LLxxyc2hWEXLS8ZmHvxXgZYRi6cnnpxU&type
=download>)
> . This design is very rugged and resistant to the kind of shocks that
> often occur in shipping or other "hard knocks". Because the motions
> involved are so small, wear is minimal, and no adjustment is necessary.
>
> But that pretty red decoration on the top of the key is impressive.
>

> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2570. Re: [cw_bugs] SALES GIMMICK

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-17 23:26:45 UTC
From: Carey Magee
Topic: 2563  Message: 2570

Hi Richard. I cannot find my password so I wonder if you could email the pdf directly to me off list.

My email addr. Is below.
Thanks
73,
Carey, K2RNY
arsk2rny@...

On Oct 17, 2016 1:29 AM, "wb9lpu@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hi, Mort et al -
>
> I agree that the use of a jeweled bearing in the pivot is not good
> engineering. Jeweled bearings work best where there is continuous, or at
> least substantial, movement. Here is why. As generally used, the jewel
> bears a conical depression, and the shaft that mates with it has a point
> that is a rounded-off cone. As the shaft rotates, is actually describes a
> very small circle very close to the bottom of the jewel depression. The
> pivot mechanism of a bug does not meet these conditions. The Vibroplex
> system still works, however, and is more resistant to wear than
> metal-on-metal. Its main drawback is its fragility. Ruby is very brittle,
> and the sharp tip of the shaft can exert a tremendous force per square
> inch, which is why adjustment is so risky.
>
> There are lots of other ways to skin this cat. Among other
> approaches, I offer the design shown in the recently uploaded file to this
> group (entitled Proto Nr. 17-3a.pdf
> <https://xa.yimg.com/df/cw_bugs/Proto+Nr.+17-3a.pdf?token=B0zdIEqqeEVKZdt-PSMWWpxHWs-HAf
UopMwoCyey41MoShqzGVrgrOUNBfvATZ4Wnu2ipS-qqZGS5wCjcD_LLxxyc2hWEXLS8ZmHvxXgZYRi6cnnpxU&type
=download>)
> . This design is very rugged and resistant to the kind of shocks that
> often occur in shipping or other "hard knocks". Because the motions
> involved are so small, wear is minimal, and no adjustment is necessary.
>
> But that pretty red decoration on the top of the key is impressive.
>
> 73 de Rich, WB9LPU
>
>
>
>
>

# 2571. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Coming Soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-21 02:39:27 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2571  Message: 2571

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! November 15th, 2014
10:00 AM to 10:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1800 UTC through 0600 UTC

For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2572. Re: [cw_bugs] W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Coming Soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-21 02:43:33 UTC
From: Kate Hutton
Topic: 2571  Message: 2572

I might have actually participated in that one HI HI. What is this year's date BR date?

73 Kate K6HTN

On Thu, Oct 20, 2016 at 7:39 PM, w6sfm@w6sfm.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP <http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html>
>
> The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW
> enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on
> the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are
> encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using
> their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit
> your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks
> know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those
> contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing"
> or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.
>
> Reserve the day! November 15th, 2014
> 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
> 1800 UTC through 0600 UTC
>
> For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially
> increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of
> Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to
> hear you all on the air! 73,
>
> W6SFM
>
>
>
>
>
>

# 2573. Re: [cw_bugs] W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Coming Soon

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-21 03:20:13 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2571  Message: 2573

CHECK THE DATE!

On Thu, Oct 20, 2016 at 9:39 PM, w6sfm@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP <http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html>
>
> The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW
> enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on
> the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are
> encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using
> their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit
> your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks
> know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those
> contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing"
> or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.
>
> Reserve the day! November 15th, 2014
> 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
> 1800 UTC through 0600 UTC
>
> For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially
> increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available at the bottom of
> Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to
> hear you all on the air! 73,
>
> W6SFM
>
>
>
>

# 2574. W6SFM Bug Roundup event CORRECTED DATE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-10-21 16:35:34 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2574  Message: 2574

Announcing The CORRECTED W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html Date

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! Saturday November 19th-20th, 2016
7:00 AM to 7:00 AM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1500 UTC through 1500 UTC

For more information and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window will be available near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2575. Ideal bearings

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-11-02 20:09:02 UTC
From: T R Mortimer
Topic: 2575  Message: 2575
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

BlankGreetings !

Some time within the last month or two, possibly arising with these jewels on various Vibro models, bearings came up for discussion.

I proposed the best is the torsion-tensioned leaf-spring, as in the NATO straight key, probably pinched from some Swedish model. Talking of pinching Swedish models... Oh, sorry, wrong forum.

Now I've dreamed up a real whizz. Consider a ball-race, set inside a spur gear-wheel. The wheel is driven by a worm, actuated by means of a bellows which moves with changes in atmospheric pressure, or temperature, or whatever the maker chooses; a photovoltaically-power electric motor, or something driven by gravitational waves, perhaps. A ratchet makes the rotation one-way; a sort of precision precession.

Thus, the ball-race, not ideally suited to tiny reciprocating angular displacements, rotates, but slowly enough not to wear out in the owner's lifetime or beyond. There should be little discernible motion detected by the key user.

The first bug I made, in 1955, was largely nails & hacksaw-blades, in a rough lump of wood. I am no machinist. However, I offer the idea, for a tiny share of the huge income to be derived from patenting the method.

Eat your heart out, Tom Edison !

73 de Mort, SV5/G2JL

# 2576. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event Reminder

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-11-13 22:37:34 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2391  Message: 2576

This is a simple reminder that Next Weekend is the "CQ BR" W6SFM Bug Roundup Event!

W6SFM On-Air BUG ROUNDUP - Starts Saturday November 19th 1500 - 1500 November 20th 2016

Objective:
This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a time dedicated to celebrating our CW and Bug key heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs using a Bug style key as the sending instrument. There are no points scored in this event, and all who participate are winners.

An on-line spotting page and Operator Chat window will be active during the event and can be found by visiting the Bug Roundup Event page or by clicking HERE.
http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html
Once the event has concluded, logs can be submitted to the W6SFM by way of the link provided on the clubs Bug Roundup web page.

Thank you for your participation and we hope you enjoy the event. 73

For more information on this exciting event please visit the W6SFM Bug Roundup website page by clicking HERE http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html
(http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html)

--

# 2577. NAQCC November Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-11-16 11:00:55 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2577  Message: 2577

The November sprint is this coming this evening local time (November 16th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, November 17th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://www.naqcc.info/sprint201611.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2578. Bugs in space . . .

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-11-19 21:15:21 UTC
From: John Raynsford
Topic: 2578  Message: 2578
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

This morning while participating the the Bug Roundup, noticedFuji-29 was going to pass off the west coast states towards Ak.Couldnt resist making a cw qso using the vibroplex standard withWC7V, Kerry in Montana as the satellite flew northwards over the north pacific.

Maybe the grand poobah will cut me some slack with currentband condx on hf, "Bugs in Space" ;) There's a number of ssb/cw hamsats that are operational nowthat are easy to access. Yagi's on az/el mounts are nice butnot mandatory, Often I use a pair of discones, pair of FT817'sso I'm full duplex vhf/uhf.

Its fun ! fo-29, xw-2a, xw-2c,wx-2d, xw-2f to mention a few.With the current trend in hf band conditions thought I'd toss thisemail out there.

73 & Cul
de AL7JK

# 2579. Timeless

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-26 06:10:11 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2579  Message: 2579
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I like this photo. Season's greetings to all !

de AL7JK, John

# 2580. Bug Weight at Lowe's

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-28 15:42:42 UTC
From: n4lq@...
Topic: 2580  Message: 2580

Someone is selling "Bug Zappers" on Ebay
http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-Flat-X-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303?hash=item25b38668ef:g:AZMAAOSw1S9WeZ6Y http://www.ebay.com/itm/W8HOG-Bug-Zapper-Brass-Weight-Fits-Vibroplex-Round-Flat-X-Shaft-Keyers-/161925720303?hash=item25b38668ef:g:AZMAAOSw1S9WeZ6Y

These are the available at Lowe's for 1/10th the price!
https://www.lowes.com/pd/Swanson-Tool-Company-2-Pack-Brass-Stair-Gauge/3009735?cm_mmc=SCE_PLA-_-ToolsAndHardware-_-LevelsAndSquares-_-3009735:Swanson_Tool_Company&CAWELAID=&kpid=3009735&CAGPSPN=pla&store_code=2352&k_clickID=6bfb18ac-ddb3-4f9a-82e9-290aff6b6bf5 https://www.lowes.com/pd/Swanson-Tool-Company-2-Pack-Brass-Stair-Gauge/3009735?cm_mmc=SCE_PLA-_-ToolsAndHardware-_-LevelsAndSquares-_-3009735:Swanson_Tool_Company&CAWELAID=&kpid=3009735&CAGPSPN=pla&store_code=2352&k_clickID=6bfb18ac-ddb3-4f9a-82e9-290aff6b6bf5

Steve N4LQ

# 2581. FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-29 20:51:09 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2581  Message: 2581

HI FOLKS

THE INFO FOR THE NEXT FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME AND THE FREQUENCIES
ARE ON MY QRZ.COM WEBPAGE. JUST LOOK UP K5KV.

THIS WAS AN EASY WAY FOR ME TO GET INFO OUT. THIS ACTIVITY IS
OPEN TO ALL BUG FANS.

HOPE FOLKS WILL DRAG THEIR OLD BUGS OUT OF DRAWERS AND OFF SHELVES.
DUST THEM OFF. LAST TIME WE HAD ONE MEMBER WHO I WONT NAME THAT HAD
NOT USED A BUG IN YEARS. HIS BUG FIST IMPROVED DRAMATICALLY IN A FEW
HOURS OF USE. PLEASE JOIN US THIS TIME EVEN IF FOR A COUPLE QSOS.
PLEASE MENTION THE MAKE AND MODEL OF YOUR BUG.

73 AND HNY
BENNY K5KV

# 2582. Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-29 21:16:48 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2581  Message: 2582

NO RESPONSE SO HERE GOES ANOTHER TRY.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
Date: Thu, Dec 29, 2016 at 2:51 PM
Subject: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS
To: CWCWCW <cwcwcw@yahoogroups.com>, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, CW Reflector <cw@...>, CW Ops <cwops@yahoogroups.com>

HI FOLKS

THE INFO FOR THE NEXT FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME AND THE FREQUENCIES ARE ON MY QRZ.COM WEBPAGE. JUST LOOK UP K5KV.

THIS WAS AN EASY WAY FOR ME TO GET INFO OUT. THIS ACTIVITY IS OPEN TO ALL BUG FANS.

HOPE FOLKS WILL DRAG THEIR OLD BUGS OUT OF DRAWERS AND OFF SHELVES. DUST THEM OFF. LAST TIME WE HAD ONE MEMBER WHO I WONT NAME THAT HAD NOT USED A BUG IN YEARS. HIS BUG FIST IMPROVED DRAMATICALLY IN A FEW HOURS OF USE. PLEASE JOIN US THIS TIME EVEN IF FOR A COUPLE QSOS. PLEASE MENTION THE MAKE AND MODEL OF YOUR BUG.

73 AND HNY
BENNY K5KV

# 2583. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-29 21:35:05 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2581 Message: 2583

I have my paper strips and alcohol ready to clean my dot contacts on my
Vibro Junior, Benny.
Now, I just need to clean the rest of my desk. I just had a QSO half
the way across Texas. Does
sound like DX to you? It is so windy here in NE Texas, I think I can
only work stations down wind
from me!

Folks, keep a strong ear out for a weak K8JP in NE Texas. Happy New
Year to all!

FREQUENCIES ARE +/- 3525, 7025, 14025 AND 21025 KHZ.

--
Regards, Joe, K8JP/V31JP, Ronnie, Marty & Sidney Pontek
2129 CR 1229
Pittsburg, TX 75686
U.S.A.
or
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize

903-204-2318 (My TX cellular)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, CWops-876, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T,
NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841,
CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2584. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-29 21:43:40 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2581  Message: 2584

Benny,

gmail doesn't show you your messages when they go through a list.

Just assume that if you did NOT get an error message from postmaster your messages got through.

Also most reflectors have "NO DUPES" so that once you send a message through the list - even if you don't get a copy - the list just gobbles the second, and third, and onward and onward messages up and deletes them without reposting.

Also most lists prohibit sending multiple addresses.

If you want to send a message to a certain list, just send ONE message to ONE list.

It cause untold problems with people who reply and they send messages to six or seven lists but don't belong to them all. Each list owner has to delete or approve EACH such message.

You will not be loved like you should be loved, you Bug Master!

73

DR

On Thu, Dec 29, 2016 at 4:16 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

> NO RESPONSE SO HERE GOES ANOTHER TRY.
>
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
> Date: Thu, Dec 29, 2016 at 2:51 PM
> Subject: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS
> To: CWCWCW <cwcwcw@yahoogroups.com>, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com, CW
> Reflector <cw@...>, CW Ops <cwops@yahoogroups.com>
>
>
> HI FOLKS
>
> THE INFO FOR THE NEXT FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME AND THE FREQUENCIES
> ARE ON MY QRZ.COM WEBPAGE. JUST LOOK UP K5KV.
>
> THIS WAS AN EASY WAY FOR ME TO GET INFO OUT. THIS ACTIVITY IS
> OPEN TO ALL BUG FANS.

>
> HOPE FOLKS WILL DRAG THEIR OLD BUGS OUT OF DRAWERS AND OFF SHELVES.
> DUST THEM OFF. LAST TIME WE HAD ONE MEMBER WHO I WONT NAME THAT HAD
> NOT USED A BUG IN YEARS. HIS BUG FIST IMPROVED DRAMATICALLY IN A FEW
> HOURS OF USE. PLEASE JOIN US THIS TIME EVEN IF FOR A COUPLE QSOS.
> PLEASE MENTION THE MAKE AND MODEL OF YOUR BUG.
>
> 73 AND HNY
> BENNY K5KV
>
>
> ---
> Posted by: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
> ---
>
>
> ---
>
> Yahoo Groups Links
>
>
>
>

# 2585. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-30 22:51:16 UTC
From: Rick Collier
Topic: 2581  Message: 2585

Man I would love to I use mine all the time but that is to close to the band edge for us generals

# 2586. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-30 23:08:37 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2581  Message: 2586

RICK

GUYS WILL BE SPREADING ABOVE 25 KHZ. FOC WAS FOUNDED BY UK HAMS AND THEY DONT HAVE THE STUPID SUB BAND HEADACHES WE DO. TUNE UP TO 026, 027, 028 ETC AND YOU WILL FIND PLENTY OF BUGS TO WORK.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Fri, Dec 30, 2016 at 4:51 PM, Rick Collier n8mfnn@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Man I would love to I use mine all the time but that is to close to the
> band edge for us generals
>
>

# 2587. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU TIME 24 HRS

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2016-12-31 03:30:35 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2581  Message: 2587

If thee sendest (well), they will findest thee.

Quote: Ye Ancient Morseman, circa 1973 from "Ancient Tales of the Dotty Buggery.".

73

DR

# 2588. SKN comments

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-01-02 00:42:37 UTC
From: al7jk@...
Topic: 2588  Message: 2588

That was fun ! One of my favorite operating events of the year.
40 meters was alive with signals that sounded if it was in the
1960's instead of 2017. Time warp :)
Look forward to working ya'll on the bands.

73 & HNY de AL7JK, John

# 2589. Montgomery Ward Airline Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-01-24 01:25:17 UTC
From: ed.n3cw@...
Topic: 2589  Message: 2589
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Folks,
I have an article on a Montgomery Ward Airline bug in the current issue of the K9YA Telegraph newsletter. So far no one seems to know much about this bug, or remember it. I thought I would attach a pic to this message in hopes that someone might remember this bug, and possibly add some information about the history of this device. Yes - I know it looks like the Electric Specialty bug ;)
--Ed, N3CW--

# 2590. Re: Montgomery Ward Airline Bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-01-24 10:48:51 UTC
From: Christian CHEFNAY
Topic: 2589  Message: 2590
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Ed,I think it's a CEDAR RAPIDS BUG or RADIO SPEED BUG, made ( 1939 - 1955) by Electric Specialty Company in Cedar Rapids (Iowa) . This bug was sold in a kit.  2 pic joined73Chris F9WTManipulateurs morse anciens

|
| |
Manipulateurs morse anciens
Collection de manipulateurs morse du monde entier par Christian F9WT | |

|

# 2591. Re: [cw_bugs] Montgomery Ward Airline Bug [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-01-24 10:58:45 UTC
From: Christian CHEFNAY
Topic: 2589  Message: 2591

Electric Specialty bug  is the same bug than my Cedar Rapids bug !  You are right !
73
Chris F9WT

Le Mardi 24 janvier 2017 2h25, "ed.n3cw@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> a écrit :

[Attachment(s) from ed.n3cw@... [cw_bugs] included below] Hi Folks,
I have an article on a Montgomery Ward Airline bug in the current issue of the K9YA Telegraph newsletter. So far no one seems to know much about this bug, or remember it. I thought I would attach a pic to this message in hopes that someone might remember this bug, and possibly add some information about the history of this device. Yes - I know it looks like the Electric Specialty bug ;)
--Ed, N3CW--

# 2592. NAQCC 160 Meter Sprint Tuessday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-01-24 10:59:05 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2420  Message: 2592

The January special 160 Meters Sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (January 24th,
EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Wednesday, January 25th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201701_160.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

Come join us and have a real good time!

# 2593. Morse-O-Matic 60

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-08 14:48:09 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2593  Message: 2593

I recently acquired a nice unit. It looks complete and it worked but now it doesn't. It needed a lot of cleanup, re-soldering, paddle adjustment, etc. Speaker is not original. It came with the schematic attached to the top of the base. No info available on the net. If you would like a copy of the schematic, let me know. If you have an operational one, let me know. If you have an ops manual, let me know. The plastic QTG switch is missing its nut and of course it is a weird size.

Another archaeology project for sure.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2594. McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-18 15:37:42 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2594  Message: 2594

Greetings,

This isn't a bug, but a straight key. Brand new, in the box (yes, really).
Pictures available here:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzHiRqE5TfwEbm1DR0lyclpTYUE

Please contact me off list for more info, better pix, price. Thanks.

73,
Mike Cizek W0VTT
mgcizek at gmail dot com

# 2595. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-18 17:12:44 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2594  Message: 2595

Very nice, Mike! I wasn't aware he made a straight key. I have his "Original Deluxe " bug and the “TAC” bug made at his other company (the Telegraph Apparatus Co. in Chicago).

73,
Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 7:37 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Greetings,

This isn't a bug, but a straight key. Brand new, in the box (yes, really).
Pictures available here:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzHiRqE5TfwEbm1DR0lyclpTYUE

Please contact me off list for more info, better pix, price. Thanks.

73,
Mike Cizek W0VTT
mgcizek at gmail dot com

---
Posted by: "Mike Cizek W0VTT" <mgcizek@...>
---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

https://info.yahoo.com/legal/us/yahoo/utos/terms/

# 2596. RE: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-18 21:49:08 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2594  Message: 2596

Hello Troy,

I didn☐t know, either, until I received this one. I wanted one to use, not to look at, and this one was just too nice to mount to a board and pound on. I paid $125 for it and would like to get my money out of it. If nobody picks it up on here, we'll try Ebay. It would make a VERY nice addition to your collection!

73,
Mike W0VTT

---
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Saturday, 18 February, 2017 11:13
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Very nice, Mike! I wasn't aware he made a straight key. I have his "Original Deluxe " bug and the ☐TAC☐ bug made at his other company (the Telegraph Apparatus Co. in Chicago).

73,
Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 7:37 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Greetings,

This isn't a bug, but a straight key.  Brand new, in the box (yes, really).
Pictures available here:
https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzHiRqE5TfwEbm1DR0lyclpTYUE

Please contact me off list for more info, better pix, price.  Thanks.

73,
Mike Cizek W0VTT
mgcizek at gmail dot com

---
Posted by: "Mike Cizek W0VTT" <mgcizek@...>
---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

# 2597. Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-18 22:26:20 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2594  Message: 2597
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Thanks for the offer, Mike. I'll have to think about that!

73,
My "every day" bug.

Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 1:49 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Hello Troy,

I didn't know, either, until I received this one. I wanted one to use, not to look at, and this one was just too nice to mount to a board and pound on. I paid $125 for it and would like to get my money out of it. If nobody picks it up on here, we'll try Ebay. It would make a VERY nice addition to your collection!

73,
Mike W0VTT

_____
From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Saturday, 18 February, 2017 11:13
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Very nice, Mike! I wasn't aware he made a straight key. I have his "Original Deluxe " bug and the "TAC" bug made at his other company (the Telegraph Apparatus Co. in Chicago).

73,
Troy, W6HV

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2017 7:37 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] McElroy Stream Key for Sale

Greetings,

This isn't a bug, but a straight key. Brand new, in the box (yes, really). Pictures available here:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzHiRqE5TfwEbm1DR0lyclpTYUE

Please contact me off list for more info, better pix, price. Thanks.

73,
Mike Cizek W0VTT
mgcizek at gmail dot com

---
Posted by: "Mike Cizek W0VTT" <mgcizek@...>
---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

---
Posted by: "Mike Cizek W0VTT" <mgcizek@...>
---

---

Yahoo Groups Links

https://info.yahoo.com/legal/us/yahoo/utos/terms/

# 2598. Mystery bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-02-28 23:27:33 UTC
From: Gary Johnson
Topic: 2598  Message: 2598
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Maybe someone can identify this mystery bug. It’s owned by John VE3CSJ. There are apparently no identifying marks anywhere on it and for all we know it’s some kind of prototype or hybrid. John already consulted with W1TP and N7CFO and they had no conclusions.

The parts I examined (the main armature) were the usual nickel-plated brass and looked commercially-made as apposed to something a skilled craftsman might make for a one-off. The main pivot was interesting. Only the top bearing is adjustable. To set the pendulum height, it slides on the pivot shaft and there is a setscrew to hold it in place.

I recently made the needed replacement parts (main spring, missing damper, etc.) and will be writing a little article about this restoration project.

73,
Gary NA6O

# 2599. RE: [cw_bugs] Mystery bug [3 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-01 09:14:48 UTC
From: F9WT-Yahoo
Topic: 2598  Message: 2599
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello Gary !

Your bug is like a clone of a canadian XOGRAPH made by Rolf H. Brown in Toronto in the 1920□s. I get one in my collection http://f9wtchris.wixsite.com/manipulateursmorse/untitled-c1unh .

Pictures joined.

73□s Chris F9WT

De : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Envoyé : mercredi 1 mars 2017 00:28
À : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Objet : [cw_bugs] Mystery bug [3 Attachments]

[Attachment(s) from Gary Johnson included below]

Maybe someone can identify this mystery bug. It□s owned by John VE3CSJ. There are apparently no identifying marks anywhere on it and for all we know it□s some kind of prototype or hybrid. John already consulted with W1TP and N7CFO and they had no conclusions.

The parts I examined (the main armature) were the usual nickel-plated brass and looked commercially-made as apposed to something a skilled craftsman might make for a one-off. The main pivot was interesting. Only the top bearing is adjustable. To set the pendulum height, it slides on the pivot shaft and there is a setscrew to hold it in place.

I recently made the needed replacement parts (main spring, missing damper, etc.) and will be writing a little article about this restoration project.

73,

Gary NA6O

# 2600. Looking for a McElroy 1938A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-01 15:44:40 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2600  Message: 2600

New to group.

Looking for a Mcelroy 1938A key. Not much seems to be known about the key. Tom French's serial number list has a few noted, both in deluxe and standard configuration. The key is the last of the dual pivot keys made by McElroy. The 1938B key has the single (vibroplex style) pivot,

Would like to add a nice one to my collection, should someone have one stashed in their closet.

Don
WB6BEE

# 2601. RE: [cw_bugs] Looking for a McElroy 1938A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-01 16:05:09 UTC
From: F9WT-Yahoo
Topic: 2600  Message: 2601
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

This one Don ?

73’s Chris F9WT

De : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Envoyé : mercredi 1 mars 2017 16:45
À : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Objet : [cw_bugs] Looking for a McElroy 1938A

New to group.

Looking for a Mcelroy 1938A key. Not much seems to be known about the key. Tom French's serial number list has a few noted, both in deluxe and standard configuration. The key is the last of the dual pivot keys made by McElroy. The 1938B key has the single (vibroplex style) pivot,

Would like to add a nice one to my collection, should someone have one stashed in their closet.

Don

WB6BEE

# 2602. RE: [cw_bugs] Mystery bug [3 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-01 16:22:07 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2598  Message: 2602

Chris, that is the best match I have seen anywhere. And it was even made in Canada. I will let John know what you have found.

73,
Gary NA6O

# 2603. Re: [cw_bugs] Looking for a McElroy 1938A

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-01 16:39:04 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2600  Message: 2603
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Chris

I think that is a very nice looking 1938 B key. That, by the way, is my favorite key. It is the only one that McElroy produced with the dot stabilizer (the little bar holding the dot spring from extending) That works so well, I have them on all my keys now. Jim W0EB makes very nice aftermarket ones for various keys.

I attached a photo of a 37 key that has the dual pivots. I think you can see then from this view on the 37 key

Thanks

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'F9WT-Yahoo' f9wtchristian@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Mar 1, 2017 9:05 am
Subject: RE: [cw_bugs] Looking for a McElroy 1938A

This one Don ?
73’s Chris F9WT

De : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Envoyé : mercredi 1 mars 2017 16:45
À : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Objet : [cw_bugs] Looking for a McElroy 1938A

New to group.

Looking for a Mcelroy 1938A key. Not much seems to be known about the key. Tom French's serial number list has a few noted, both in deluxe and standard configuration. The key is the last of the dual pivot keys made by McElroy. The 1938B key has the single (vibroplex style) pivot,

Would like to add a nice one to my collection, should someone have one stashed in their closet.

Don
WB6BEE

# 2604. RE: [cw_bugs] Mystery bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-02 13:43:26 UTC
From: F9WT-Yahoo
Topic: 2598  Message: 2604

OK Gary, thanks.

73’s Chris F9WT

De : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Envoyé : mercredi 1 mars 2017 17:22
À : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Objet : RE: [cw_bugs] Mystery bug

Chris, that is the best match I have seen anywhere. And it was even made in Canada. I will let John know what you have found.

73,

Gary NA6O

# 2605. W4PAL books

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-31 23:23:27 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2605  Message: 2605

Since Bill Smith W4PAL passed away, I wonder if anyone has attempted to buy any of his books. His website is still active and it appears possible to place an order. Perhaps someone on this list knows if there is a person now responsible for the site and actively filling orders.

Gary NA6O

# 2606. Re: [cw_bugs] W4PAL books

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-31 23:32:29 UTC
From: Joe
Topic: 2605  Message: 2606

When I bought any of his books or CD, it seems like his wife, Judy,
handled it. She was who told me about his health issues.
He sure taught me tons about machining and miss Bill dearly.

On 3/31/2017 6:23 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
>
> Since Bill Smith W4PAL passed away, I wonder if anyone has attempted
> to buy any of his books. His website is still active and it appears
> possible to place an order. Perhaps someone on this list knows if
> there is a person now responsible for the site and actively filling
> orders.
>
>
> Gary NA6O
>

--
Regards, Joe, K8JP/V31JP, Ronnie, Marty & Sidney Pontek
2129 CR 1229
Pittsburg, TX 75686
U.S.A.
or
P.O. Box 280, Dangriga, Stann Creek District
(Hopkins Village) Belize

903-204-2318 (My TX cellular)
903-884-5990 (Skype telephone number, Belize & TX)
Also, K8JP, member FOC-1743, QCWA-LM21894, OOTC-4607, A1OP, SKCC-3171T, NAQCC-5798, Flying Pig-2819, FISTS-7625CC951, A1C-2299, SOC 1075, 10-10 22977, PG1915841, CW Rag chewers #21,
Skype: v31joepalooka
Facebook: Joe Pontek
I am looking for Vibroplex Model X, Double lever and prefer basket cases to restore.
LotW

# 2607. Re: [cw_bugs] W4PAL books

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-03-31 23:45:12 UTC
From: Mike Crownover
Topic: 2605  Message: 2607

Yes, I ordered one of his books a couple of months ago and received it promptly.

Mike AD5A

> On Mar 31, 2017, at 6:23 PM, gwj@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> Since Bill Smith W4PAL passed away, I wonder if anyone has attempted to buy any of his books. His website is still active and it appears possible to place an order. Perhaps someone on this list knows if there is a person now responsible for the site and actively filling orders.
>
>
>
> Gary NA6O
>
>

# 2608. Re: [cw_bugs] W4PAL books

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-01 14:49:48 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2605  Message: 2608

That's good news. I'm working on an article and wanted to be relatively sure the books might be available. My copy from a couple years ago has a nice inscription by the OM himself.

Gone is a national treasure...

Gary NA6O

# 2609. SK KEYS FOR SALE (NOT BY ME)

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-02 00:06:00 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2609  Message: 2609

SOME TRULY AWESOME FINDS HERE.

http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm

BUG FANS DONT MISS THIS ONE.

http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/schurr.htm

CONTACT ROBERT W5AJ IF INTERESTED AT:

woodr90@...

IF YOU FORWARD THIS EMAIL, PLEASE REMOVE MY EMAIL ETC FROM IT.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2610. NAQCC April Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-10 00:33:16 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2494  Message: 2610

On Tuesday evening, April 11 (4/12 UTC), we will have our landmark 150th regular monthly sprint.
We want to celebrate this event by giving away a prize worth $150 to one member-participant!
But there is a catch, we will only have a prize drawing if we get at least 150 submitted logs.
You don’t have to be an experienced contester or a high speed CW operator to participate.
Just get on the air, make at least 1 sprint QSO, and submit your log, and you will be eligible for the prize drawing.
So mark your calendar and get ready!

EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Wednesday, April 12th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201704.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2611. Fwd: KEYS FOR SALE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-13 05:31:45 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2611  Message: 2611

GOLD BASE VIBROPLEX SHIPPED FOR $100.00.

WISH I NEEDED ONE! SEE LINK BELOW.

http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm

73
BENNY K5KV

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Robert . <woodr90@...>
Date: Wed, Apr 12, 2017 at 11:51 PM
Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
To: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>

Final days

Lowered prices

http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm

On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 2:51 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...> wrote:
>
> ROBERT
>
> AFTER SOME THOUGHT I AM GOING TO PASS. DO YOU WANT ME TO FORWARD
> THIS INFO TO SOME CW GROUPS?
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
> On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 12:56 PM, Robert <woodr90@...> wrote:
> > http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
> >
> >
> > I'm updating the web page several times each day as get spare moments
> > Takes some effort to look at family documentation and try to figure out pricing -
that's taking longer than I expected too
> >
> > 73 Robert w5AJ
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
> > Sent: Saturday, April 01, 2017 9:39 AM
> > To: Robert <woodr90@...>
> > Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
> >

> > ROBERT
> >
> > ALL I HAD WAS TWO PHOTOS FORWARDED TO ME FROM A FRIEND. WHAT IS THE WEBPAGE?
> >
> > 73
> > BENNY K5KV
> >
> > On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 1:32 AM, Robert <woodr90@...> wrote:
> >> Benny
> >>
> >> Can you go back to the web page
> >>
> >> Scroll down and see what number that key is
> >>
> >> Thanks
> >>
> >> 73 Robert W5AJ
> >>
> >>
> >> -----Original Message-----
> >> From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
> >> Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 8:59 PM
> >> To: WOODR90@...
> >> Subject: KEYS FOR SALE
> >>
> >> ROBERT
> >>
> >> WILL YOU SELL THE BUG IN THE MIDDLE WITH THE BROWN HANDLES?. IT HAS NO CHROME AND IS NOT A VIBROPLEX. HOW MUCH?
> >>
> >> 73
> >> BENNY K5KV
> >>
> >

# 2612. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: KEYS FOR SALE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-13 13:13:24 UTC
From: Mike Crownover
Topic: 2611  Message: 2612

Oh, are we supposed to need these keys?:-)

I'm in big trouble. Speaking of need, I'm in need of an Olympic double lever if any has one they are tired of looking at.

73,

Mike AD5A

> On Apr 12, 2017, at 11:31 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> GOLD BASE VIBROPLEX SHIPPED FOR $100.00.
>
> WISH I NEEDED ONE! SEE LINK BELOW.
>
> http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
>
> 73
> BENNY K5KV
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: Robert . <woodr90@...>
> Date: Wed, Apr 12, 2017 at 11:51 PM
> Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
> To: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
>
> Final days
>
> Lowered prices
>
> http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
>
> On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 2:51 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...> wrote:
> >
> > ROBERT
> >
> > AFTER SOME THOUGHT I AM GOING TO PASS. DO YOU WANT ME TO FORWARD
> > THIS INFO TO SOME CW GROUPS?
> >
> > 73
> > BENNY K5KV
> >
> > On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 12:56 PM, Robert <woodr90@...> wrote:
> > > http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
> > >

> > >
> > > I'm updating the web page several times each day as get spare moments
> > > Takes some effort to look at family documentation and try to figure out pricing - that's taking longer than I expected too
> > >
> > > 73 Robert w5AJ
> > >
> > > -----Original Message-----
> > > From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
> > > Sent: Saturday, April 01, 2017 9:39 AM
> > > To: Robert <woodr90@...>
> > > Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
> > >
> > > ROBERT
> > >
> > > ALL I HAD WAS TWO PHOTOS FORWARDED TO ME FROM A FRIEND. WHAT IS THE WEBPAGE?
> > >
> > > 73
> > > BENNY K5KV
> > >
> > > On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 1:32 AM, Robert <woodr90@...> wrote:
> > >> Benny
> > >>
> > >> Can you go back to the web page
> > >>
> > >> Scroll down and see what number that key is
> > >>
> > >> Thanks
> > >>
> > >> 73 Robert W5AJ
> > >>
> > >>
> > >> -----Original Message-----
> > >> From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
> > >> Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 8:59 PM
> > >> To: WOODR90@...
> > >> Subject: KEYS FOR SALE
> > >>
> > >> ROBERT
> > >>
> > >> WILL YOU SELL THE BUG IN THE MIDDLE WITH THE BROWN HANDLES?. IT HAS NO CHROME AND IS NOT A VIBROPLEX. HOW MUCH?
> > >>
> > >> 73
> > >> BENNY K5KV
> > >>
> > >
>

# 2613. Re: [cw_bugs] Fwd: KEYS FOR SALE

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-13 15:50:48 UTC
From: kb8tt@...
Topic: 2611  Message: 2613

Interesting, someone reversed the knob and paddle on this gold "rightly." Nice key, and price is nice as well, but I have a "lefty" presentation--and no more room on my operating table for another bug :-)

Dave KB8TT

On 2017-04-13 09:13, Mike Crownover ad5a@... [cw_bugs] wrote:
> Oh, are we supposed to need these keys?:-)
>
> I'm in big trouble. Speaking of need, I'm in need of an Olympic double
> lever if any has one they are tired of looking at.
>
> 73,
>
> Mike AD5A
>
> On Apr 12, 2017, at 11:31 PM, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs]
> <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>> GOLD BASE VIBROPLEX SHIPPED FOR $100.00.
>>
>> WISH I NEEDED ONE! SEE LINK BELOW.
>>
>> http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
>>
>> 73
>> BENNY K5KV
>>
>> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
>> From: Robert . <woodr90@...>
>> Date: Wed, Apr 12, 2017 at 11:51 PM
>> Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
>> To: Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
>>
>> Final days
>>
>> Lowered prices
>>
>> http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
>>
>> On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 2:51 PM, Benny Owens <k5kvm5@...>
>> wrote:
>>>
>>> ROBERT
>>>

>>> AFTER SOME THOUGHT I AM GOING TO PASS. DO YOU WANT ME TO FORWARD
>>> THIS INFO TO SOME CW GROUPS?
>>>
>>> 73
>>> BENNY K5KV
>>>
>>> On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 12:56 PM, Robert <woodr90@...> wrote:
>>>> http://pages.suddenlink.net/w5aj/key.htm
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> I'm updating the web page several times each day as get spare
>> moments
>>>> Takes some effort to look at family documentation and try to
>> figure out pricing - that's taking longer than I expected too
>>>>
>>>> 73 Robert w5AJ
>>>>
>>>> -----Original Message-----
>>>> From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
>>>> Sent: Saturday, April 01, 2017 9:39 AM
>>>> To: Robert <woodr90@...>
>>>> Subject: Re: KEYS FOR SALE
>>>>
>>>> ROBERT
>>>>
>>>> ALL I HAD WAS TWO PHOTOS FORWARDED TO ME FROM A FRIEND. WHAT IS
>> THE WEBPAGE?
>>>>
>>>> 73
>>>> BENNY K5KV
>>>>
>>>> On Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 1:32 AM, Robert <woodr90@...>
>> wrote:
>>>>> Benny
>>>>>
>>>>> Can you go back to the web page
>>>>>
>>>>> Scroll down and see what number that key is
>>>>>
>>>>> Thanks
>>>>>
>>>>> 73 Robert W5AJ
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> -----Original Message-----
>>>>> From: Benny Owens [mailto:k5kvm5@...]
>>>>> Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 8:59 PM
>>>>> To: WOODR90@...
>>>>> Subject: KEYS FOR SALE
>>>>>

>>>>> ROBERT
>>>>>
>>>>> WILL YOU SELL THE BUG IN THE MIDDLE WITH THE BROWN HANDLES?. IT
>> HAS NO CHROME AND IS NOT A VIBROPLEX. HOW MUCH?
>>>>>
>>>>> 73
>>>>> BENNY K5KV
>>>>>
>>>>
>
>
>
> Links:
> ------
> [1]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/messages/2612;_ylc=X3oDMTJxbjNkaXJ1BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAMyNjEyBHNlYwNmdHIEc2xrA3JwbHkEc3RpbWUDMTQ5MjA4OTIwNg--?act=reply&messageNum=2612
> [2]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/newtopic;_ylc=X3oDMTJmdGY4cXE3BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNudHBjBHN0aW1lAzE0OTIwODkyMDY-
> [3]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/conversations/topics/2611;_ylc=X3oDMTM1MnZncDY4BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRtc2dJZAMyNjEyBHNlYwNmdHIEc2xrA3Z0cGMEc3RpbWUDMTQ5MjA4OTIwNgR0cGNJZAMyNjEx
> [4] https://yho.com/1wwmgg
> [5]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cw_bugs/info;_ylc=X3oDMTJmcnZoNTk0BF9TAzk3MzU5NzE0BGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDdnRsBHNsawN2Z2hwBHN0aW1lAzE0OTIwODkyMDY-
> [6]
> https://groups.yahoo.com/neo;_ylc=X3oDMTJldXFobTltBF9TAzk3NDc2NTkwBGdycElkAzE4OTMwMDMzBGdycHNwSWQDMTcwODM5NjM3OQRzZWMDZnRyBHNsawNnZnAEc3RpbWUDMTQ5MjA4OTIwNg--
> [7] https://info.yahoo.com/privacy/us/yahoo/groups/details.html
> [8] https://info.yahoo.com/legal/us/yahoo/utos/terms/

# 2614. Maritime Radio Day Today, Tomorrow

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-14 10:52:06 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2614  Message: 2614

http://maritimeradio.pro/maritimeradioday/

There are some great fists heard during this annual event.

David N1EA

# 2615. W6SFM Bug Roundup Event is coming May!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-16 23:22:47 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2615  Message: 2615

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat”, "Rag Chew" QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! Saturday May 20th - Sunday May 21st, 2017
7:00 AM to 7:00 AM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1400 UTC through 1400 UTC

For more information, to register your station and key for participation, and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window link can be found near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM

# 2616. Fwd: [CW] W6SFM Bug Roundup Event is coming May!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-04-17 03:05:36 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2616  Message: 2616
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

BUG ROUNDUP ANNOUNCEMENT. PLEASE JOIN US IF INTERESTED. SEE BELOW:

73
BENNY K5KV

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: W6SFM <w6sfm@w6sfm.com>
Date: Sun, Apr 16, 2017 at 6:18 PM
Subject: [CW] W6SFM Bug Roundup Event is coming May!
To: CW Users Group <cw@...>

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP <http://w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html>

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat”, "Rag Chew" QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. Simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. Grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! Let’s hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the day! Saturday May 20th - Sunday May 21st, 2017
7:00 AM to 7:00 AM Pacific Time (LOCAL)
1400 UTC through 1400 UTC

For more information, to register your station and key for participation, and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window link can be found near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,

W6SFM
--

_____
CW mailing list
Home: http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cw
Help: http://mailman.qth.net/mmfaq.htm
Post: mailto:CW@...
CW List ARCHIVES: http://mailman.qth.net/pipermail/cw/
Unsubcribe send email to
cw-unsubscribe@...
Subscribe send email to cw-subscribe@...
Support this email list: http://www.qsl.net/donate.html

=30=

# 2617. Re: [MorseCode] New "Compendium Of Automatic Morse Code" Book Came Today

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-06 19:28:40 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2617  Message: 2617

Please be careful when replying, if you are not a member of all the lists, Gary sent this message to, you will generate bounce messages, and that's a pain for the list owner.

73 to all,

David N1EA
CW@... list co-owner

On Sat, May 6, 2017 at 2:48 PM, Gary H. Harmon, Jr. <gharmon@...> wrote:

>
> What a beautiful book containing 304 pages of color pictures and
> information!
>
>
>
> Good job Edwin Goss/N3CW.
>
>
>
> Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist
>
> 6003 Archwood
>
> San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
>
> (210) 657-1549 <home>
>
> (210) 884-6926 <cell and text>
>
> (210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>
>
> gharmon@...
>
>
>
> "Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"
>
> http://www.grissomroadcoc.org
>
>
>
> ----------

> MorseCode mailing list
> Home: http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/morsecode
> Help: http://mailman.qth.net/mmfaq.htm
> Post: mailto:MorseCode@...
>
> This list hosted by: http://www.qsl.net
> Please help support this email list: http://www.qsl.net/donate.html
>

# 2618. NAQCC May Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-10 00:43:10 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2618  Message: 2618

The May NAQCC sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (May 10th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday,May 11th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201705.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2619. Looking for a McElroy 1938A bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-16 01:25:37 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2619  Message: 2619

Last of his production with the dual pivot, generally came with the dot stabilizer.

Don

WB6BEE

# 2620. Notice: W6SFM Bug Roundup Event is THIS weekend!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-17 19:54:21 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2620  Message: 2620

This is a simple reminder that this coming Weekend is the "CQ BR" W6SFM Bug Roundup Event!

W6SFM On-Air BUG ROUNDUP - Starts Saturday May 20th 1400 UTC (7:00 AM Pacific LOCAL Time) through Sunday May 21st 1400 UTC (7:00 AM Pacific Local time)

Objective:
This 24-hour event is not a contest; rather it is a time dedicated to celebrating our CW and Bug key heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs using a Bug style key as the sending instrument. There are no points scored in this event, and all who participate are winners.

To register your station for this event please be sure to visit our Bug Roundup Event page at http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html
An on-line spotting page and Operator Chat window will be active during the event and can also be found by visiting the Bug Roundup Event page (http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html) http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html
Once the event has concluded, optional logs may be submitted to the W6SFM by way of the link provided on the clubs Bug Roundup web page.

Thank you for your participation and we hope you enjoy the event as much as we enjoy hosting it. 73

For more information on this exciting event please visit the W6SFM Bug Roundup website page by clicking HERE http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html (http://www.w6sfm.com/Bug_Roundup.html)
--

# 2621. Re: QSO and Photos

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-18 15:06:48 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2621  Message: 2621

CAP

IT IS A EMAIL REFLECTOR

cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com

73
BENNY K5KV

On Thu, May 18, 2017 at 9:20 AM, Cap Allen <capallen@...> wrote:

> Benny, is CW-BUGS a Yahoo site?
>
> Don, I had Maurizio Melappioni, I6QON make me a weight for my Mac 38 Delux
> a few years back. Machine it up from stock. He has been working on a set of
> duplicate 38 deluxes for years now but his sailboat over in Dalmatia is his
> love and I fear is getting all the attention these days, so we may not see
> any out on the street. He made the castings years ago. He may have made
> extra weights for that project.
>
> Don, didn’t subject you to the Les Logan lefty this AM because havent used
> it in a while. Didn’t want to abuse you.
>
> Cap
>
> *From:* Benny Owens
> *Sent:* Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:54 AM
> *To:* DON WB6BEE
> *Cc:* Cap Allen ; JIM SHELDON W0EB
> *Subject:* Re: QSO and Photos
>
> DON
>
> PUT THAT WEIGHT INFO ON CW-BUGS.
>
> I HAVE NEVER BEEN INTERESTED IN EITHER THE MODEL X OR THE BEGALI
> INTREPID. THEY BOTH SEEM TOO COMPLICATED TO ME.
>
> On Thu, May 18, 2017 at 8:49 AM, <haywooddc@...> wrote:
>
>> If you are talking about the Model X spring, I am not sure how it works.
>> The key has a single contact for both the dots and dashes,
>>
>> I am looking for an original weight for the 1938A key that is coming.
>> It's the weight from the 1938-1939 period. 7/8 inch in outer diameter and
>> about 1/4 inch thick with the set screw. If anyone has one in the junk

>> box,
>>
>> Don
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Cap Allen <capallen@...>
>> To: haywooddc <haywooddc@...>; k5kvm5 <k5kvm5@gmail.com>; w0eb <
>> w0eb@...>
>> Sent: Thu, May 18, 2017 7:44 am
>> Subject: Re: Fwd: QSO and Photos
>>
>>
>> - Look at that shorting bar. IT actually got used so much in those
>> days to close the circuit that it broke off, maybe from the arcing? Explain
>> the dot spring and mechanism to me.
>>
>> snowing here now Don, so your trip not going to be dry.
>>
>> *From:* haywooddc@...
>> *Sent:* Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:27 AM
>> *To:* k5kvm5@... ; w0eb@... ; capallen@...
>> *Subject:* Fwd: QSO and Photos
>>
>> I talked to Jim W6YA for the first time yesterday. He was telling me
>> about his grandfather;s bug that he still had in the original box. His
>> Grandfather was a telegrapher for the rail road, never a ham. So, Jim
>> sends me these photos, It's a 1913 Vibroplex Model X "Lefty". Can you
>> imagine how rare that key has to be.
>>
>> Don
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Jim McCook <w6ya@...>
>> To: Haywooddc <Haywooddc@...>
>> Sent: Wed, May 17, 2017 6:23 pm
>> Subject: QSO and Photos
>>
>> Hi Don,
>>
>> Great to chat today; let's do it again before long. Here are photos of
>> grandpa's old Vibroplex. Grandma told me he carried that case a couple of
>> miles each day to work at the Santa Fe RR station. Wish he had hung in
>> there longer....
>>
>> I have kept it in the case, but it was in similar condition when my mom
>> dug it out for me about 1955. I got a new Vibroplex for Christmas in 1954,
>> so using this old bug was a struggle after getting used to the new shiny
>> one.....

>>
>> 73, Jim
>> W6YA
>>
>>
>>
>> <http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient> Virus-free.
>> www.avg.com
>> <http://www.avg.com/email-signature?utm_medium=email&utm_source=link&utm_campaign=sig-email&utm_content=emailclient>
>>
>
>

# 2622. Wanted 1937 McElroy CMK- 26009

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-05-25 17:36:55 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2622  Message: 2622

Looking to add to my collection. A pristine/great condition 1937 McElroy Bug, CMK 26009, has "product of US Navy" on side of the key. Needs to be complete.

Please let me know if you have anything

Don
WB6BEE

# 2623. June NAQCC Sprint

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-13 00:53:54 UTC
From: Larry Makoski
Topic: 544  Message: 2623

The June NAQCC sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (June 13th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Wednesaday,June 14th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201706.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important
information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX
for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the
GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight
key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you
must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints
running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the
newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran
contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help
you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your
chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+
members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the
NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate,
with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2624. Re: Mystery bug

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-18 18:20:50 UTC
From: gwj@...
Topic: 2598  Message: 2624

To follow up on this old thread, we wrote an article about the restoration of the Mystery Bug. You can read it in the current CWops newsletter.

-Gary NA6O

http://cwops.org/newsletter/2017/06scopy17jun.pdf
http://cwops.org/newsletter/2017/06scopy17jun.pdf

# 2625. FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-27 00:01:02 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2625  Message: 2625

BELOW IS THE THIRD FOC BUG DAY ANNOUNCEMENT. MARK YOUR CALENDAR.
ITS OPEN TO ALL HAMS WITH A BUG.

Bug Day 2017 by MØPCB and K5KV
There has been continued interest in an activity twice per year (to run alongside the Mechanical Key Days) where the idea is to get on the air using those bug keys. It is open to both members and non-members. Benny, K5KV has volunteered to compile a list of participants and any votes for 'smoothest fist'. The exchange is expected to include, at the very least, a description of the bug being used.
The THIRD event will be SATURDAY, 1st JULY 2017 for 24 hours on or about club frequencies.
Calling CQ Bug Day is suggested.
Participants can contact Benny K5KV at email listed above on QRZ.com with questions.

THE FOC FREQUENCIES ARE +/- 3525, 7025, 14025 AND 21025 KHZ. I HOPE TO WORK YOU ON BUG DAY. PLEASE SEND A LIST OF STATIONS WORKED USING BUGS AND YOUR VOTE FOR BEST BUG FIST TO EMAIL ABOVE.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2626. Re: FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-27 01:27:16 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2625  Message: 2626

Interesting.....for Extra class licensees only !!!!

# 2627. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-27 01:35:59 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2625  Message: 2627

NO BUG DAY IS FOR ANYONE WITH A BUG. THE FREQUENCY LIST SHOWS +/- IN FRONT OF THE LIST. IN THE PAST FOLKS HAVE BEEN 10 - 15 KHZ ABOVE THE EXTRA BANDS. MAYBE MORE WITH THE RAC ACTIVITY ON OR NEAR THE SAME FREQUENCIES. FOC IS A BRITISH CLUB AND SET THEIR CLUB FREQUENCIES AT 25 KHZ ABOVE THE BAND EDGE LONG BEFORE THE ARRL AND FCC SPLIT THE BANDS BY LICENSE CLASS. USE ANY CLEAR FREQUENCY YOU FIND ABOVE 025.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Mon, Jun 26, 2017 at 8:27 PM, mtnest@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Interesting.....for Extra class licensees only !!!!
>
>

# 2628. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-27 02:10:39 UTC
From: Troy, W6HV
Topic: 2625  Message: 2628

No, check out (from ARRL);
80 Meters
Novice and Technician classes:

3.525-3.600 MHz: CW Only

General class:

3.525-3.600 MHz: CW, RTTY/Data
3.800-4.000 MHz: CW, Phone, Image

Advanced class:

3.525-3.600 MHz: CW, RTTY/Data
3.700-4.000 MHz: CW, Phone, Image

Amateur Extra class:

3.500-3.600 MHz: CW, RTTY/Data
3.600-4.000 MHz: CW, Phone, Image

73,Troy, W6HV

From: mtnest@... [cw_bugs]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 6:27 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Re: FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Interesting.....for Extra class licensees only !!!!

# 2629. Re: [cw_bugs] Re: FOC BUG DAY JULY 1

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-06-28 12:03:16 UTC
From: mtnest@...
Topic: 2625  Message: 2629

Benny,

Thanks for the clarification.....and GL. :)

73, Tom W4TMW

# 2630. NAQCC July Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-18 23:54:34 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2523  Message: 2630

The July NAQCC sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (July 19th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, July 20th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201707.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 7100+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2631. Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 14:17:03 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2631
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2632. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key [2 Attachments]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 14:28:18 UTC
From: k8mfo@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2632

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me  ...  At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers.  Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s.  The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@comcast.net [cw_bugs] included below]

I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well.  Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2633. RE: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 15:07:29 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2631  Message: 2633

Reverse frame?

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers. Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]

I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2634. RE: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 15:50:54 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2634

Look at the main frame and you will/should see the arms on the frame is pointing toward your hand and are rolled 90 degs. Carl AB1ZI

# 2635. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 15:53:36 UTC
From: Donald A. Karvonen
Topic: 2631  Message: 2635

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!! Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

<!-- /* start of attachment style */ .ygrp-photo-title{ clear: both; font-size: smaller; height: 15px; overflow: hidden; text-align: center; width: 75px; } div.ygrp-photo{ background-position: center; background-repeat: no-repeat; background-color: white; border: 1px solid black; height: 62px; width: 62px; } div.photo-title a, div.photo-title a:active, div.photo-title a:hover, div.photo-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } div.attach-table div.attach-row { clear: both; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div { float: left; /* margin: 2px;*/ } p { clear: both; padding: 15px 0 3px 0; overflow: hidden; } div.ygrp-file { width: 30px; valign: middle; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div div a { text-decoration: none; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div div span { font-weight: normal; } div.ygrp-file-title { font-weight: bold; } /* end of attachment style */ -->
<!--#ACTIVITY {float:left;} #activity span:first-child { text-transform: uppercase; } .ATTACH {display: table;} div.file-title a, div.file-title a:active, div.file-title a:hover, div.file-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } div.photo-title a, div.photo-title a:active, div.photo-title a:hover, div.photo-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } o { font-size: 0; } #PHOTOS div {float:left;} #PHOTOS div div {overflow:hidden;} #PHOTOS div label {overflow:hidden;} #ygrp-actbar div a:first-child { /* border-right: 0px solid #000;*/ margin-right: 2px; padding-right: 5px; } #YGRP-MLMSG {*font-size: small; *font: x-small;} #YGRP-MLMSG table {font-size: inherit;} #YGRP-MLMSG pre {*font-size:100%;} code {*font-size:100%;} #ygrp-mlmsg * { line-height: 1.22em; } #ygrp-vital ul li:last-child { border-right: none !important; } /* Font Definitions */ @font-face {font-family:Wingdings; panose-1:5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0;} @font-face {font-family:Tahoma; panose-1:2 11 6 4 3 5 4 4 2 4;} @font-face {font-family:Verdana; panose-1:2 11 6 4 3 5 4 4 2 4;} /* Style Definitions */ p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal, div.MsoNormal {margin:0in; margin-bottom:.0001pt; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} a:link, span.MsoHyperlink {color:blue; text-decoration:underline;} a:visited, span.MsoHyperlinkFollowed {color:blue; text-decoration:underline;} p {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} code {font-family:"Courier New";} pre {margin:0in; margin-bottom:.0001pt; font-size:10.0pt; font-family:"Courier New";} tt {font-family:"Courier New";} p.attach, li.attach, div.attach {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:9.0pt; font-family:Arial;} p.bold, li.bold, div.bold {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:10.0pt; font-family:Arial; font-weight:bold;} p.green, li.green, div.green {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman"; color:#628C2A;} p.replbq, li.replbq, div.replbq {margin:3.0pt; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} p.ad, li.ad, div.ad {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} p.underline, li.underline, div.underline

{mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} p.ad1, li.ad1, div.ad1 {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} p.ad2, li.ad2, div.ad2 {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; margin-bottom:7.5pt; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman";} p.underline1, li.underline1, div.underline1 {mso-margin-top-alt:auto; margin-right:0in; mso-margin-bottom-alt:auto; margin-left:0in; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman"; text-decoration:underline;} span.yshortcuts1 {font-family:Verdana; font-weight:bold;} span.yshortcuts2 {font-family:Verdana; font-weight:normal;} span.EmailStyle33 {mso-style-type:personal-reply; font-family:Arial; color:blue; font-weight:normal; font-style:normal; text-decoration:none none;} @page Section1 {size:8.5in 11.0in; margin:1.0in 1.25in 1.0in 1.25in;} div.Section1 {page:Section1;} /* List Definitions */ @list l0 {mso-list-id:65887142; mso-list-template-ids:1283779272;} @list l0:level1 {mso-level-number-format:bullet; mso-level-text:\F0B7; mso-level-tab-stop:.5in; mso-level-number-position:left; text-indent:-.25in; mso-ansi-font-size:10.0pt; font-family:Symbol;} ol {margin-bottom:0in;} ul {margin-bottom:0in;} -->

Reverse frame?

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers. Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@comcast.net [cw_bugs] included below]

I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2636. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 16:26:21 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2636

I am not an expert on Speedx. Ask me a McElroy question. I looked through this website and didn't find a match

http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@...m>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!! Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 201709:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me IDthis key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At onetime those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps byindependent electronics suppliers. Could have been made by SpeedX Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. TheREVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM EasternStandard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@comcast.net [cw_bugs] included below]
I have been looking to find out who made this key andno info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because itlooked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hoursof cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy withit and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, CarlAB1ZI

# 2637. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 16:28:57 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2637

I believe I found what it is. From "Morsemad.com".

American Logan Reverse Frame Bug. Circa late 1930s. A Logan Speed X Model 501 Professional. Has similar looks to the early Speed X of Les Logan, with a 6 1/4" by 3 1/2" nickel plated base and a reverse frame where the arms extend to the rear to carry the pivots. Three feet held on with pins and not screws. Also has the 1/4" contacts. Supplied without a label to various retail outlets in America
Carl AB1ZI

# 2638. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 16:29:23 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2631  Message: 2638

I THINK DON IS CORRECT. I HAD THREE OF THESE BUGS WITH REVERSE FRAME AND NOT A TAG ON A SINGLE ONE. ONE WAS ALL CHROME LIKE YOURS AND TWO WERE BLACK BASE. ONE HAD CHROME TOP PARTS AND THE OTHER WAS ALL BLACK PAINT. I JUST CHECKED THE PHOTOS OF THEM AND NONE HAD TAGS.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Wed, Jul 19, 2017 at 11:26 AM, haywooddc@... [cw_bugs] <
cw_bugs@...m> wrote:

>
>
> I am not an expert on Speedx. Ask me a McElroy question. I looked
> through this website and didn't find a match
>
> http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm
>
> Don
> WB6BEE
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
> Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key
>
>
> Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!!
> Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.
>
>
> On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@...
> [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
> Reverse frame?
>
> ----------
> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> *Sent:* Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key
>

>
> It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were
> sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent
> electronics suppliers. Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing
> Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is
> an important clue in identifying the key.
>
> 73
>
> Don K8MFO
>
> In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time,
> cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:
>
>
> *[Attachment(s) <#m_-576371220162588000_aolmail_TopText> from
> cwebs@... <cwebs@...> [cw_bugs] included below]*
> I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures
> found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and
> rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it
> came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it
> works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI
>
>
>
>

# 2639. Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 16:32:08 UTC
From: k8mfo@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2639

McElroy Question.  "What did Ted McElroy say when he answered the phone at his business?"

de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 12:26:29 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I am not an expert on Speedx.  Ask me a McElroy question.  I looked through this website and didn't find a match
http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue"  !!!  Another thing to look for is a  "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me  ...  At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers.  Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s.  The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]
I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it

off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well.  Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2640. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 16:36:44 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2640

I suspect a "whammy" coming. "Telegraph Apparatus Company, not Incorporated, Company"

How's that?????????

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 10:32 am
Subject: Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

McElroy Question. "What did Ted McElroy say when he answered the phone at his business?"

de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 12:26:29 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I am not an expert on Speedx. Ask me a McElroy question. I looked through this website and didn't find a match

http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!! Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers. Could have been

made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]
I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2641. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 17:01:49 UTC
From: Donald A. Karvonen
Topic: 2631  Message: 2641

NOPE! .. .He said "HOO BOY"..... I know not why!

OK, one more chance at a McElroy question. What was his pet name for his wife? de K8MFO

On July 19, 2017, at 12:37 PM, "haywooddc@aol.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

<!-- /* start of attachment style */ .ygrp-photo-title{ clear: both; font-size: smaller; height: 15px; overflow: hidden; text-align: center; width: 75px; } div.ygrp-photo{ background-position: center; background-repeat: no-repeat; background-color: white; border: 1px solid black; height: 62px; width: 62px; } div.photo-title a, div.photo-title a:active, div.photo-title a:hover, div.photo-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } div.attach-table div.attach-row { clear: both; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div { float: left; /* margin: 2px;*/ } p { clear: both; padding: 15px 0 3px 0; overflow: hidden; } div.ygrp-file { width: 30px; valign: middle; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div div a { text-decoration: none; } div.attach-table div.attach-row div div span { font-weight: normal; } div.ygrp-file-title { font-weight: bold; } /* end of attachment style */ --> <!-- #ygrp-mkp { border: 1px solid #d8d8d8; font-family: Arial; margin: 10px 0; padding: 0 10px; } #ygrp-mkp hr { border: 1px solid #d8d8d8; } #ygrp-mkp #hd { color: #628c2a; font-size: 85%; font-weight: 700; line-height: 122%; margin: 10px 0; } #ygrp-mkp #ads { margin-bottom: 10px; } #ygrp-mkp .ad { padding: 0 0; } #ygrp-mkp .ad p { margin: 0; } #ygrp-mkp .ad a { color: #0000ff; text-decoration: none; } -->

I suspect a "whammy" coming.  "Telegraph Apparatus Company, not Incorporated, Company"

How's that?????????

Don

WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: k8mfo@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 10:32 am
Subject: Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

McElroy Question.  "What did Ted McElroy say when he answered the phone at his business?"

de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 12:26:29 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I am not an expert on Speedx.  Ask me a McElroy question.  I looked through this website and didn't find a match

http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don

WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@aol.com [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue"  !!!  Another thing to look for is a  "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@gmail.com [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me  ...  At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers.  Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s.  The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@comcast.net [cw_bugs] included below]

I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well.  Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

#AOLMsgPart_2_f3389d8c-42df-4f52-8b60-f2cef81fab44 td{color: black;} .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp { border: 1px solid #d8d8d8; font-family: Arial; margin: 10px 0; padding: 0 10px;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp hr { border: 1px solid #d8d8d8;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp #aolmail_hd { color: #628c2a; font-size: 85%; font-weight: 700; line-height: 122%; margin: 10px 0;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp #aolmail_ads { margin-bottom: 10px;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp .aolmail_ad { padding: 0 0;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp .aolmail_ad p { margin: 0;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mkp .aolmail_ad a { color: #0000ff; text-decoration: none;} .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail_ygrp-lc { font-family: Arial;}.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail_ygrp-lc #aolmail_hd { margin: 10px 0px; font-weight: 700; font-size: 78%; line-height: 122%;}.aolReplacedBody

#aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail _ygrp-lc .aolmail_ad { margin-bottom: 10px; padding: 0 0;}
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_actions { font-family: Verdana; font-size: 11px; padding: 10px
0; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity { background-color: #e0ecee; float: left;
font-family: Verdana; font-size: 10px; padding: 10px; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity
span { font-weight: 700; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity span:first-child {
text-transform: uppercase; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity span a { color: #5085b6;
text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity span span { color: #ff7900; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_activity span .aolmail_underline { text-decoration: underline; }
.aolReplacedBody .aolmail_attach { clear: both; display: table; font-family: Arial;
font-size: 12px; padding: 10px 0; width: 400px; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_attach div a {
text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_attach img { border: none;
padding-right: 5px; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_attach label { display: block;
margin-bottom: 5px; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_attach label a { text-decoration: none; }
.aolReplacedBody blockquote { margin: 0 0 0 4px; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_bold {
font-family: Arial; font-size: 13px; font-weight: 700; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_bold a
{ text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody dd.aolmail_last p a { font-family: Verdana;
font-weight: 700; } .aolReplacedBody dd.aolmail_last p span { margin-right: 10px;
font-family: Verdana; font-weight: 700; } .aolReplacedBody dd.aolmail_last p
span.aolmail_yshortcuts { margin-right: 0; } .aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_attach-table div
div a { text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_attach-table { width: 400px;
} .aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_file-title a,.aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_file-title
a:active,.aolReplacedBody div.aol mail_file-title a:hover,.aolReplacedBody
div.aolmail_file-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody
div.aolmail_photo-title a,.aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_photo-title
a:active,.aolReplacedBody div.aolmail_photo-title a:hover,.aolReplacedBody
div.aolmail_photo-title a:visited { text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody
div#aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg #aolmail_ygrp-msg p a span.aolmail_yshortcuts { font-family:
Verdana; font-size: 10px; font-weight: normal; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_green { color:
#628c2a; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_MsoNormal { margin: 0 0 0 0; } .aolReplacedBody o {
font-size: 0; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_photos div { float: left; width: 72px; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_photos div div { border: 1px solid #666666; height: 62px;
overflow: hidden; width: 62px; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_photos div label { color:
#666666; font-size: 10px; overflow: hidden; text-align: center ; white-space: nowrap;
width: 64px; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_reco-category { font-size: 77%; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_reco-desc { font-size: 77%; } .aolReplacedBody .aolmail_replbq {
margin: 4px; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-actbar div a:first-child { margin-right:
2px; padding-right: 5px; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg { font-size: 13px;
font-family: Arial, helvetica,clean, sans-serif; *font-size: small; *font: x-small; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg table { font-size: inherit; font: 100%; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg select,.aolReplacedBody input,.aolReplacedBody
textarea { font: 99% Arial, Helvetica, clean, sans-serif; } .aolReplacedBody
#aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg pre,.aolReplacedBody code { font:115% monospace; *font-size:100%; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg * { line-height: 1.22em; } .aolReplacedBody
#aolmail_ygrp-mlmsg #aolmail_logo { padding-bottom: 10p x; } .aolReplacedBody
#aolmail_ygrp-msg p a { font-family: Verdana; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-msg
p#aolmail_attach-count span { color: #1E66AE; font-weight: 700; } .aolReplacedBody
#aolmail_ygrp-reco #aolmail_reco-head { color: #ff7900; font-weight: 700; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-reco { margin-bottom: 20px; padding: 0px; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail_ov li a { font-size: 130%;
text-decoration: none; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail_ov li {
font-size: 77%; list-style-type: square; padding: 6px 0; } .aolReplacedBody

```
#aolmail_ygrp-sponsor #aolmail_ov ul { margin: 0; padding: 0 0 0 8px; } .aolReplacedBody
#aolmail_ygrp-text { font-family: Georgia; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-text p {
margin: 0 0 1em 0; } .aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-text tt { font-size: 120%; }
.aolReplacedBody #aolmail_ygrp-vital ul li:last-child { border-right: none !important; }
```

# 2642. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 17:15:37 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2642

Hmmmm, probably "Dot spring"

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 11:02 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

NOPE! .. .He said "HOO BOY"..... I know not why!
OK, one more chance at a McElroy question. What was his pet name for his wife? de K8MFO

On July 19, 2017, at 12:37 PM, "haywooddc@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

I suspect a "whammy" coming. "Telegraph Apparatus Company, not Incorporated, Company"

How's that?????????

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 10:32 am
Subject: Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

McElroy Question. "What did Ted McElroy say when he answered the phone at his business?"

de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 12:26:29 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I am not an expert on Speedx. Ask me a McElroy question. I looked through this website and didn't find a match

http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!! Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers. Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]
I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2643. Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 17:19:01 UTC
From: k8mfo@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2643

NOPE ... He called her  "Mrs. McElroy"  ...  When asked WHY, he said,, "because I don't know her that well!"  ...

OK, those are the only 2 McElroy questions that I had!

73  de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 1:15:42 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

Hmmmm, probably "Dot spring"

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 11:02 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

NOPE!  .. .He said  "HOO BOY"......  I  know not why!
OK, one more chance at a McElroy question.  What was  his pet name for his wife?  de K8MFO

On July 19, 2017, at 12:37 PM, "haywooddc@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

I suspect a "whammy" coming.  "Telegraph Apparatus Company, not Incorporated, Company"
How's that?????????

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 10:32 am
Subject: Re: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

McElroy Question.  "What did Ted McElroy say when he answered the phone at his business?"

de K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 12:26:29 PM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

I am not an expert on Speedx.  Ask me a McElroy question.  I looked through this website and didn't find a match
http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@...m>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue" !!! Another thing to look for is a "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame?

From:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 2017 09:28
To:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me ... At one time those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps by independent electronics suppliers. Could have been made by Speed X Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s. The REVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key.

73

Don K8MFO

In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM Eastern Standard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:

[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]
I have been looking to find out who made this key and no info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because it looked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hours of cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy with it and it works very well. Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, Carl AB1ZI

# 2644. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 17:35:30 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2644

Looks like there is two models with the same number but one is called a T-Bar.
http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm

Carl AB1ZI

# 2645. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 18:37:45 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2631  Message: 2645

My Logan definitely had a logo.  I am convinced that it is a Logan key, but the t bar had definite finger tabs for lifting.  My spec is that the shortage of brass prompted the elimination of the brass lifting bar and the name tag for after war shortages, but I do not know for sure.  I could not have another look at the picture while writing my previous post.  Cookie, K5EWJ

On Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 9:29:29 AM PDT, Benny Owens k5kvm5@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

I THINK DON IS CORRECT.  I HAD THREE OF THESE BUGS WITH REVERSE FRAME AND NOT A TAG ON A SINGLE ONE.  ONE WAS ALL CHROME LIKE YOURS AND TWO WERE BLACK BASE.  ONE HAD CHROME TOP PARTS AND THE OTHER WAS ALL BLACK PAINT.  I JUST CHECKED THE PHOTOS OF THEM AND NONE HAD TAGS.
73BENNY K5KV
On Wed, Jul 19, 2017 at 11:26 AM, haywooddc@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

I am not an expert on Speedx.  Ask me a McElroy question.  I looked through this website and didn't find a match

http://w1tp.com/im8000b.htm
Don WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: 'Donald A. Karvonen' k8mfo@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wed, Jul 19, 2017 9:58 am
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Should have said "reverse frame on some of these keys is a clue"  !!!  Another thing to look for is a  "bulls eye" on the finger pieces.

On July 19, 2017, at 11:32 AM, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Reverse frame? From:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups. com]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 July, 201709:28
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Re: [cw_bugs] Help me IDthis key  It looks like a NO LABEL Speed X to me  ...  At onetime those bugs were sold in SEARS and MONTGOMERY WARD catalogs, or perhaps byindependent electronics suppliers.  Could have been made by SpeedX Manufacturing Company or Les Logan in the late 30s or early 40s.  TheREVERSE FRAME is an important clue in identifying the key. 73 Don K8MFO In a message dated 7/19/2017 10:17:12 AM EasternStandard Time, cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com writes:
[Attachment(s) from cwebs@... [cw_bugs] included below]I have been looking to find out who made this key andno info or pictures found. I got it off epay and no one would bid because itlooked so bad and rusty. I thought I would have to paint it but after 4 hoursof cleaning it came out very good,it will stay in this state. I am happy withit and it works very

well.  Can anyone ID this for me? Thanks, CarlAB1ZI

# 2646. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 18:25:24 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2631  Message: 2646

I have two Les Logans in my collection.  Neither looks exactly like the example.  One looks similar and has a name plate that identifies it as a Les Logan 515.  It has a black crackle finish and to holes for screws plus the name plate is parallel to the dit arm.  It is equipped with a paddle finger piece and a paddle thumb piece.  The other has a base about as wide as the Original and Deluxe Vibroplex and the arch if definitely a T shape with plenty of T for lifting with two fingers.  It is chrome or possibly nickel plated.  Both are identified by a brass nameplate and the trade name SpeedX.  I speculate that both versions were supplied with plated base, but I have no examples.  The key in the picture is equipped with a finger knob and a tumb piece similar to a Vibroplex and may have been altered.  My understanding is that Logan bought the design from a company named Johnson at about the start of WW2 and sold the design to another Johnson (E. F. Johnson) about 1950 and all three has similar products and used the name SpeedX.  E. F. Johnson also made a straight key called SpeedX not manufactured by the other Johnson or Logan.  That is my two bits worth,  W. R. Cooke, K5EWJ.

On Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 10:35:35 AM PDT, cwebs@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Looks like there is two models with the same number but one is called
a T-Bar.http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm
Carl AB1ZI

# 2647. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 19:15:22 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2647

The example on the morsemad site is exactly like mine so I go with it being the Logan speed X non t-bar and it looks like the finger and thumb pad/nob are correct. Thanks guys,
Carl AB1ZI

# 2648. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 19:15:17 UTC
From: WILLIS COOKE
Topic: 2631  Message: 2648

After rereading all the comments and looking at the pictures again, which I could not do while writing my comments, I find no evidence of reversing from my key,  i assume you mean by reversing that the key is made to use with the left hand.  I find no evidence of this and I have used my key for more than two hours right handed.  The differences that I find between this key and mine are redesign of the T Frame.  My frame is mounted about 3/8 inch rearward and is a bit taller with a finger hook on each side.  The design is a bit different to require less brass and the name plate is missing.  The pivot on the dit bar is a bit further forward and the shorting bar is different.  I think the design is more likely from E. F. Johnson company rather than the pre WW2 SpeedX Company.  As I stated previously, I think all three used the SpeedX brand and I know that E. F. Johnson and Les Logan did.  I assume that the previous Johnson also did, as the SpeedX Brand was around before the war.

On Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 11:55:41 AM PDT, WILLIS COOKE wrcooke@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

I have two Les Logans in my collection.  Neither looks exactly like the example.  One looks similar and has a name plate that identifies it as a Les Logan 515.  It has a black crackle finish and to holes for screws plus the name plate is parallel to the dit arm.  It is equipped with a paddle finger piece and a paddle thumb piece.  The other has a base about as wide as the Original and Deluxe Vibroplex and the arch if definitely a T shape with plenty of T for lifting with two fingers.  It is chrome or possibly nickel plated.  Both are identified by a brass nameplate and the trade name SpeedX.  I speculate that both versions were supplied with plated base, but I have no examples.  The key in the picture is equipped with a finger knob and a tumb piece similar to a Vibroplex and may have been altered.  My understanding is that Logan bought the design from a company named Johnson at about the start of WW2 and sold the design to another Johnson (E. F. Johnson) about 1950 and all three has similar products and used the name SpeedX.  E. F. Johnson also made a straight key called SpeedX not manufactured by the other Johnson or Logan.  That is my two bits worth,  W. R. Cooke, K5EWJ.

On Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 10:35:35 AM PDT, cwebs@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Looks like there is two models with the same number but one is called
a T-Bar.http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm
Carl AB1ZI

# 2649. Re: [cw_bugs] Help me ID this key

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-07-19 22:17:57 UTC
From: cwebs@...
Topic: 2631  Message: 2649

At this site, http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm http://www.morsemad.com/bugs.htm scroll down to picture 093. That is what I have. This is the only web site that showed this key. I haven't found another example yet and I have looked at a lot of them. 092 is the T-bar model. Let know what you think, Carl.

# 2650. NAQCC August Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-08 00:20:12 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2650  Message: 2650

The August NAQCC sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (August 8th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, August 9th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201708.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2651. 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is NEXT Sunday

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-12 19:35:16 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2651  Message: 2651

The 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt is next Sunday - August 20th!

Make sure to join in the fun with a pair of wings! Get a Skeeter number by sending an e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net

The Skeeter Hunt is open to ALL Amateur Radio Operators.The rules and all the details can be found at
http://www.qsl.net/w2lj

73 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2652. New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 08:17:17 UTC
From: Colin Tuckley
Topic: 2652  Message: 2652

Hi,

I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.

I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and adjustment it's mostly working.

It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of lead attached to the pendulum weight.

So I have some newbie questions:

Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.

At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements available?

I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?

73, Colin

--
Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903

An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.

# 2653. RE: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 11:27:39 UTC
From: Mike Cizek W0VTT
Topic: 2652  Message: 2653

Hello Colin,

Vibroplex has parts for almost everything, and they have a European distributor. Contact Morse Garage http://www.morsegarage.ch/ or contact Vibroplex directly. I prefer adding a bigger weight to slow down the bug and that works fine down to about 20 - 25 wpm. For slower speeds, I just use a hand key (-: I also have a Lionel J-36 and like it a lot. GL.

73,

Mike W0VTT

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, 14 August, 2017 03:17
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Hi,

I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.

I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and adjustment it's mostly working.

It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of lead attached to the pendulum weight.

So I have some newbie questions:

Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.

At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements available?

I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?

73, Colin

--
Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id

Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903

An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.

# 2654. RE: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 13:26:18 UTC
From: D.J.J. Ring, Jr.
Topic: 2652  Message: 2654

The parts for Vibroplex Lightening Bug which is the design used for the military key J-36 are largely unavailable. The last of those keys were sold about 1980 after the Company was sold and moved from New York City to Portland, Maine where Peter Garson streamlined production by eliminating the so-called "Assembled" frame type semiautomatic keys, namely the Lighting Bug and the Champion models, as well as all of the "Cast" frame type keys, namely the miniaturized scale 2.5 inch wide base Blue Racer model and the model with the specially adjustable mainspring and gold plated top plate on a 3.5 inch wide base. He also eliminated all circuit closing switches as there were no more wire telegraph lines in USA that used them.

Sometimes you will see people selling parts on eBay but it's best to find a parts key for little money somewhere and use the parts from it, or make the parts.

The parts key often yields springs, weights, and other parts.

73

David N1EA

On Aug 14, 2017 07:35, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> Hello Colin,
>
>
>
> Vibroplex has parts for almost everything, and they have a European
> distributor. Contact Morse Garage http://www.morsegarage.ch/ or contact
> Vibroplex directly. I prefer adding a bigger weight to slow down the bug
> and that works fine down to about 20 - 25 wpm. For slower speeds, I just
> use a hand key (-: I also have a Lionel J-36 and like it a lot. GL.
>
>
>
> 73,
>
> Mike W0VTT
>
>
> ----------
>

> *From:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> *Sent:* Monday, 14 August, 2017 03:17
> *To:* cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> *Subject:* [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question
>
>
>
>
>
> Hi,
>
> I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've
> been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.
>
> I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and
> adjustment it's mostly working.
>
> It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small
> pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it
> looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of
> lead attached to the pendulum weight.
>
> So I have some newbie questions:
>
> Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with
> the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.
>
> At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way
> of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements
> available?
>
> I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the
> correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just
> adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?
>
> 73, Colin
>
> --
> Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
> Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903
>
> An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.
>
>
>
>

# 2655. RE: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 14:15:50 UTC
From: F9WT-Yahoo
Topic: 2652  Message: 2655
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello !

Pictures of my 3 J36 bugs ( Vibroplex, Lionel and Bunnell ) are joined .

73

Chris F9WT

De : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Envoyé : lundi 14 août 2017 15:26
À : cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Objet : RE: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

The parts for Vibroplex Lightening Bug which is the design used for the military key J-36 are largely unavailable. The last of those keys were sold about 1980 after the Company was sold and moved from New York City to Portland, Maine where Peter Garson streamlined production by eliminating the so-called "Assembled" frame type semiautomatic keys, namely the Lighting Bug and the Champion models, as well as all of the "Cast" frame type keys, namely the miniaturized scale 2.5 inch wide base Blue Racer model and the model with the specially adjustable mainspring and gold plated top plate on a 3.5 inch wide base. He also eliminated all circuit closing switches as there were no more wire telegraph lines in USA that used them.

Sometimes you will see people selling parts on eBay but it's best to find a parts key for little money somewhere and use the parts from it, or make the parts.

The parts key often yields springs, weights, and other parts.

73

David N1EA

On Aug 14, 2017 07:35, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Hello Colin,

Vibroplex has parts for almost everything, and they have a European distributor. Contact Morse Garage http://www.morsegarage.ch/ or contact Vibroplex directly. I prefer adding a bigger weight to slow down the bug and that works fine down to about 20 - 25 wpm. For slower speeds, I just use a hand key (-: I also have a Lionel J-36 and like it a lot. GL.

73,

Mike W0VTT

---

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, 14 August, 2017 03:17
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Hi,

I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've
been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.

I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and
adjustment it's mostly working.

It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small
pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it
looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of
lead attached to the pendulum weight.

So I have some newbie questions:

Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with
the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.

At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way
of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements
available?

I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the
correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just
adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?

73, Colin

--
Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903

An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.

# 2656. Re: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 15:01:45 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 2652  Message: 2656

Hi David et. al.

This is good advice. Old keys are plentiful, at least in the States and Canada. This may not be the case overseas.

I have had good luck locating suitable replacement springs at hardware stores. They often carry a wide assortment for repairing relays, solenoids, etc., such as those used in furnaces, AC units and the like.

One needs a fairly light spring, which can be modified to accept the point on the spring tension set screw. It's a somewhat intuitive thing.

I'm not much of a fan of slowing down bugs excessively. It can lead to the development of some bad techniques. The worst mistake can be treating it like an electronic keyer by pressing the levers (paddles) instead of developing the timing and proper "roll" of the wrist to manipulate the bug.

A bit of extra weight on a fast bug isn't problematic, but the key is really meant for faster speeds, whereas the standard key (American steel lever or Admiralty "straight key") is for slower speeds.

73,

JW (WB8SIW)

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 14, 2017, at 9:26 AM, 'D.J.J. Ring, Jr.' n1ea@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> The parts for Vibroplex Lightening Bug which is the design used for the military key J-36 are largely unavailable. The last of those keys were sold about 1980 after the Company was sold and moved from New York City to Portland, Maine where Peter Garson streamlined production by eliminating the so-called "Assembled" frame type semiautomatic keys, namely the Lighting Bug and the Champion models, as well as all of the "Cast" frame type keys, namely the miniaturized scale 2.5 inch wide base Blue Racer model and the model with the specially adjustable mainspring and gold plated top plate on a 3.5 inch wide base. He also eliminated all circuit closing switches as there were no more wire telegraph lines in USA that used them.
>
> Sometimes you will see people selling parts on eBay but it's best to find a parts key for little money somewhere and use the parts from it, or make the parts.
>
> The parts key often yields springs, weights, and other parts.
>
> 73
>

> David N1EA
>
>> On Aug 14, 2017 07:35, "'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]"
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>>
>>
>> Hello Colin,
>>
>>
>>
>> Vibroplex has parts for almost everything, and they have a European distributor. Contact Morse Garage http://www.morsegarage.ch/ or contact Vibroplex directly. I prefer adding a bigger weight to slow down the bug and that works fine down to about 20 - 25 wpm. For slower speeds, I just use a hand key (-: I also have a Lionel J-36 and like it a lot. GL.
>>
>>
>>
>> 73,
>>
>> Mike W0VTT
>>
>>
>>
>> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
>> Sent: Monday, 14 August, 2017 03:17
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
>> Subject: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> Hi,
>>
>> I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've
>> been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.
>>
>> I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and
>> adjustment it's mostly working.
>>
>> It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small
>> pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it
>> looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of
>> lead attached to the pendulum weight.
>>
>> So I have some newbie questions:
>>
>> Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with
>> the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.
>>

>> At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way
>> of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements
>> available?
>>
>> I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the
>> correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just
>> adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?
>>
>> 73, Colin
>>
>> --
>> Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
>> Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903
>>
>> An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.
>>
>>
>>
>
>

# 2657. Re: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 17:57:05 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2652  Message: 2657
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hello to all.

Thanks for the link. Need to order some stuff from him.

I found this photo there and maybe what your looking for.

Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Aug 14, 2017, at 4:27 AM, 'Mike Cizek W0VTT' mgcizek@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
>
>
> Hello Colin,
>
> Vibroplex has parts for almost everything, and they have a European distributor. Contact
Morse Garage http://www.morsegarage.ch/ <http://www.morsegarage.ch/> or contact Vibroplex
directly. I prefer adding a bigger weight to slow down the bug and that works fine down to
about 20 - 25 wpm. For slower speeds, I just use a hand key (-: I also have a Lionel J-36
and like it a lot. GL.
>
> 73,
> Mike W0VTT
>
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> [mailto:
<mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>]
> Sent: Monday, 14 August, 2017 03:17
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
> Subject: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question
>
>
> Hi,
>
> I'm a new member of the group, I live in Cambridge, England and I've
> been licensed as G8TMV since the late 1970s.
>
> I recently acquired a Lionel J-36 bug. After a bit of cleaning and
> adjustment it's mostly working.
>
> It has a replica label that is held down by three of the small
> pins/rivets rather than all five. The dot spring is not original, it
> looks like it's been made from a relay contact. It also has a lump of
> lead attached to the pendulum weight.
>

> So I have some newbie questions:
>
> Are original or replica dot springs available? I'm having trouble with
> the set up that is mostly caused by the bodged one fitted.
>
> At least one of the label pins is broken off in the hole, is there a way
> of getting it out without damaging the base plate and are replacements
> available?
>
> I'd like to slow the key down a bit more, I read somewhere that the
> correct way to do this is to extend the pendulum arm rather than just
> adding a bigger weight, is there some info on how to do this?
>
> 73, Colin
>
> --
> Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
> Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903
>
> An elephant: A mouse built to government specifications.
>
>
>
>

# 2658. Re: [cw_bugs] New member and J-36 dot spring question [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-14 18:35:38 UTC
From: Colin Tuckley
Topic: 2652  Message: 2658

On 14/08/17 18:57, Fernando wrote:

> I found this photo there and maybe what your looking for.

Yes, that is exactly what I'm looking for, thanks. I've sent Fred an email.

73, Colin G8TMv

--
Colin Tuckley | +44(0)1223 830814 | PGP/GnuPG Key Id
Debian Developer | +44(0)7799 143369 | 0xFA0C410738C9D903

# 2659. 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Log Summaries

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-22 01:43:22 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2659  Message: 2659

Thanks to all who participated in the 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt last Sunday.

Even though band conditions were reported to be less than ideal,
I am hoping you had fun, nevertheless.

Please remember that all Log Summaries are due NO LATER than MIdnight of Sunday evening,
September 3rd. You can send them via e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net

All log submissions will be confirmed with a follow up e-mail, so if you make a submission
but don't hear from me, then please try again.

73 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2660. Dow-Key Unit or Parts Needed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-24 02:20:37 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2660  Message: 2660

I am currently restoring Dow-Key deluxe and Dow-Key Junior bugs. I am looking for some parts for both. If you have a parts unit or spare parts please let me know.

73,

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

# 2661. Re: [cw_bugs] Dow-Key Unit or Parts Needed

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-08-24 02:31:21 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2660  Message: 2661

HI GARY

GOOD LUCK FINDING THOSE PARTS.

MY SAYING ABOUT RETIREMENT IS THERE ARE TWO DAYS OF THE WEEK, SUNDAYS AND
OTHER DAYS.

73
BENNY K5KV

On Wed, Aug 23, 2017 at 9:20 PM, 'Gary H. Harmon, Jr.' gharmon@...
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

>
>
> I am currently restoring Dow-Key deluxe and Dow-Key Junior bugs. I am
> looking for some parts for both. If you have a parts unit or spare parts
> please let me know.
>
>
>
> 73,
>
>
>
> Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist
>
> 6003 Archwood
>
> San Antonio, TX 78239-1504
>
> (210) 657-1549 <home>
>
> (210) 884-6926 <cell and text>
>
> (210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>
>
> gharmon@...
>
>
>
> "Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"
>
> http://www.grissomroadcoc.org
>
>

>
>
>

# 2662. FINAL CALL! 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Log Summaries

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-03 00:36:45 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2662  Message: 2662

Thanks to all who participated in the 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt.

Log Summaries are due NO LATER than MIdnight of Sunday evening,
September 3rd. That's tomoorw night! Any log summaries received after will
not count towards awards or certificates.

You can send them via e-mail to w2lj@arrl.net All log submissions will be confirmed
with a follow up e-mail, so if you make a submission but don't hear from me, then please
try again.

73 de Larry W2LJ
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager - Skeeter # 13

# 2663. 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt -Results are in!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-04 20:11:46 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2663  Message: 2663

The results of the 2017 NJQRP Skeeter Hunt results are in! Congratulations to the following:

N5GW - First Place Overall
AB9CA - Second Place Overall
N3AQC - Third Place Overall
N0SS - Fourth Place Overall
K9DXA - Fifth Place Overall

To view the entire Scoreboard - please go to https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BNYXnJYedY7ZfXftrCTj3cIf7bg9zZ__FyZgl9WrhAc/edit#gid=2003439823
To view the 2017 Sopabox comments and photos - please go to http://www.qsl.net/w2lj/index%20page%2010

Once again, thanks to all who signed up and participated - and special thanks to the NJQRP Club for supporting this annual Summertime QRP Event. Without ALL of you, sponsor and participants, none of this would be possible.

It is our fondest hope that the NJQRP Skeeter Hunt will continue to bring you fun and a good time well into the future!

72 de Larry W2L
NJQRP Skeeter Hunt Manager

# 2664. Storing your collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-19 02:51:08 UTC
From: n2fq@...
Topic: 2664  Message: 2664

Hello to all.

I'm wondering how others store there collection.

I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.

I rotate them to the op position on a whim.

Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.

Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.

Tnx.

Fernando N2FQ/6

# 2665. Re: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-19 02:56:13 UTC
From: haywooddc@...
Topic: 2664  Message: 2665

Any McElroys that you don't have room for

Don
WB6BEE

-----Original Message-----
From: n2fq@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
To: cw_bugs <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Mon, Sep 18, 2017 8:51 pm
Subject: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Hello to all.

I'm wondering how others store there collection.

I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.

I rotate them to the op position on a whim.

Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.

Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.

Tnx.

Fernando N2FQ/6

# 2666. RE: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-19 03:04:18 UTC
From: Gary H. Harmon, Jr.
Topic: 2664  Message: 2666

I use individual white crush proof boxes with bubble wrap inside. One end makes a perfect place for describing what lurks inside. They can be stacked several high with no potential for crushing.

Gary H. Harmon, Jr. - K5JWK - HAM Radio and ATARI Archaeologist

6003 Archwood

San Antonio, TX 78239-1504

(210) 657-1549 <home>

(210) 884-6926 <cell and text>

(210) 657-1549 <FAX with prior notification>

gharmon@...

"Retirement = Every day is a Saturday except Sunday"

http://www.grissomroadcoc.org

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 9:51 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Hello to all.

I'm wondering how others store there collection.

I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.

I rotate them to the op position on a whim.

Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.

Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.

Tnx.

Fernando N2FQ/6

# 2667. RE: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-19 13:19:25 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2664  Message: 2667
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I found plastic rectangular boxes that are made to display model cars and model trains. Bug fits perfectly and they are quite inexpensive.

- fred KT5X

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 8:51 PM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Hello to all.

I'm wondering how others store there collection.

I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.

I rotate them to the op position on a whim.

Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.

Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.

Tnx.

Fernando N2FQ/6

# 2668. Re: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-19 20:35:28 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 2664  Message: 2668
Attachments: 1 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

I use an old China cabinet to store/display my small collection of old Telegraph keys, instruments and similar things. It works well if you have room. The glass doors keep the dust out and they are protected from handling.

JW

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 19, 2017, at 9:19 AM, 'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... [cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> I found plastic rectangular boxes that are made to display model cars and model trains. Bug fits perfectly and they are quite inexpensive.
>
>
>
> - fred KT5X
>
>
>
> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
> Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 8:51 PM
> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
> Subject: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection
>
>
>
>
>
> Hello to all.
>
>
>
> I'm wondering how others store there collection.
>
>
>
> I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.
>
>
>
> I rotate them to the op position on a whim.
>
>
>

> Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.
>
>
>
> Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.
>
>
>
>
>
> Tnx.
>
>
>
> Fernando N2FQ/6
>
>
>
>
>

# 2669. Re: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection [1 Attachment]

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-20 00:38:05 UTC
From: Fernando
Topic: 2664  Message: 2669

Thanks Gentlemen. I now have a good idea.
Those curio cabinet meets the xyl approval. hi..

73
Fernando N2FQ/6
n2fq@...

> On Sep 19, 2017, at 1:35 PM, James Wades jameswades@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> [Attachment(s) <x-msg://1/#TopText> from James Wades included below]
>
>
> I use an old China cabinet to store/display my small collection of old Telegraph keys, instruments and similar things. It works well if you have room. The glass doors keep the dust out and they are protected from handling.
>
> JW
> <image1.JPG>
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Sep 19, 2017, at 9:19 AM, 'Fred Maas' just.one.hill@... <mailto:just.one.hill@...>
[cw_bugs] <cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>> wrote:
>
>>
>> I found plastic rectangular boxes that are made to display model cars and model trains. Bug fits perfectly and they are quite inexpensive.
>>
>>
>>
>> - fred KT5X
>>
>>
>>
>> From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
[mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>]
>> Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 8:51 PM
>> To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com <mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com>
>> Subject: [cw_bugs] Storing your collection
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>

>> Hello to all.
>>
>>
>>
>> I'm wondering how others store there collection.
>>
>>
>>
>> I have over 40 bugs and have them in plastic bags which is unsightly.
>>
>>
>>
>> I rotate them to the op position on a whim.
>>
>>
>>
>> Recently got some plastic storage bins with covers but they take up twice the space.
>>
>>
>>
>> Kind of interested how others solve the storage issue.
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>
>> Tnx.
>>
>>
>>
>> Fernando N2FQ/6
>>
>> !
>>
>>
>>
>
>
>

# 2670. NAQCC September Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-09-20 01:37:30 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2536  Message: 2670

The September NAQCC sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (September20th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, September 21st, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201709.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2671. NAQCC October Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-10-09 22:44:46 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2671  Message: 2671

The October NAQCC sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (October 10th, EDT - 8:30-10:30PM, CDT - 7:30-9:30PM, MDT - 6:30-8:30PM, PDT - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, October 11th, 0030 to 0230Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201710.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time, and hunt for the NAQCC Anniversary stations, too!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2672. W6SFM Bug Roundup is Coming!

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-10-19 19:55:43 UTC
From: w6sfm@...
Topic: 2672  Message: 2672

Announcing W6SFM's BUG ROUNDUP

The Samuel F. Morse Amateur Radio Club, a Sacramento, California based CW enthusiast club wanted a special time to bring bug operators together on the air. In the same spirit as ARRL's Straight Key Night, participants are encouraged to make simple, conversational, “chewing-the-fat” QSOs using their bug type key. This is an opportunity to exercise, share and exhibit your personalized fist. This is NOT a contest. However, there is a very easy and quick required signup form found at https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/ https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/. Once you are registered for the event simply Call "CQ BR" so folks know you are a Bug Roundup Participant. So lets grab that bug, clean those contacts, and let’er fly! We want to hear that “Banana Boat / Lake Erie Swing" or that commercial KPH/WCC quality fist.

Reserve the date! The event begins on Friday November 17th (00:00 UTC) and concludes Sunday Nov. 19th (23:59 UTC), 2017
That's 4:00 PM Friday evening until 3:59 PM Pacific Time (LOCAL)

For more information, to register your station, and to help assist in spotting, potentially increasing QSOs, an On-line chat window link can be found near the bottom of Bug Roundup home page located at https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/ https://w6sfm.com/bug-roundup/ We hope to hear you all on the air! 73,
--
W6SFM
www.w6sfm.com http://www.w6sfm.com/

# 2673. NAQCC November Sprint this Wednesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-11-15 02:23:10 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2577  Message: 2673

The November NAQCC sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (November 15th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Thursday, November 16, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201711.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time, and hunt for the NAQCC Anniversary stations, too!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2674. Chrome spots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-03 09:06:07 UTC
From: g4fadrich@...
Topic: 2674  Message: 2674

Hi All,
My favorite bug is a Vibroplex Original made in 1956 it is the chrome version and the chrome now is getting rough to the touch as a little corrosion has taken place, I hasten to add this was before it came into my hands.

I don't want to take it all to pieces so is there something simple I can do to stop further corrosion and get it looking a bit better?

Cheers Rich G4FAD..( Novice bug man)

# 2675. RE: [cw_bugs] Chrome spots

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-03 15:41:50 UTC
From: Fred Maas
Topic: 2674  Message: 2675
Attachments: 3 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Your problem with this is the lack of proper undercoating. Chrome plating doesn't adhere well to cast iron base. There has to be another metal plated to the iron, like a primer in paint. It has nothing to do with how a previous owner treated it.

What can you do? Well, the rust can be temporarily stopped using what is called Naval Jelly. further progression can be minimized by a low humidity environment, something over which you may have little or no control.

The problem of which you speak is typical of the chromed bugs made from 1945 to about 1953, I am surprised to hear of it in a bug as late as 1956. Best solution is a bug from the late fifties into the early sixties ;-)

73, Fred KT5X

From: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com [mailto:cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 03, 2017 2:06 AM
To: cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [cw_bugs] Chrome spots

Hi All,

My favorite bug is a Vibroplex Original made in 1956 it is the chrome version and the chrome now is getting rough to the touch as a little corrosion has taken place, I hasten to add this was before it came into my hands.

I don't want to take it all to pieces so is there something simple I can do to stop further corrosion and get it looking a bit better?

Cheers Rich G4FAD..( Novice bug man)

# 2676. Fwd: Membership request

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-10 12:23:51 UTC
From: Earl Needham
Topic: 2676  Message: 2676

Somebody help Bill out here?
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: "Bill McGill billmcgill2004@... [cw_bugs]" <
cw_bugs-noreply@yahoogroups.com>
Date: Dec 10, 2017 1:29 AM
Subject: Membership request
To: <cw_bugs-owner@yahoogroups.com>
Cc:

Good morning
My name is Bill McGill. My Callsign is GM0DXB. I live in West Lothian
Scotland.
I use a twin paddle key for CW, I have a few keys and decided to give my
coffin bug(BK-100) a try. Sadly as I was setting it up I dropped it and
broke some of the plastic. I looked around trying to find out if there is
a person or company where I can obtain parts for this key. I also have a
KY 102 with a similar problem. Having seen your website I thought that I
could seek advise from the members.

Thank you

Bill McGill. GM0DXB. Fists 132. RAOTA 2091

Sent from my iPad

# 2677. Re: [cw_bugs] Coffin bug parts

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-10 13:28:24 UTC
From: James Wades
Topic: 2676  Message: 2677

If I recall correctly, those bugs were manufactured by Hi-Mound:

Try this:

http://www3.tokai.or.jp/haimondo/E/buhin/kakusyu.html

73, JW (WB8SIW)

Sent from my iPad

> On Dec 10, 2017, at 7:23 AM, Earl Needham earl.kd5xb@... [cw_bugs]
<cw_bugs@yahoogroups.com> wrote:
>
> Somebody help Bill out here?
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: "Bill McGill billmcgill2004@... [cw_bugs]" <cw_bugs-noreply@yahoogroups.com>
> Date: Dec 10, 2017 1:29 AM
> Subject: Membership request
> To: <cw_bugs-owner@yahoogroups.com>
> Cc:
>
> Good morning
> My name is Bill McGill. My Callsign is GM0DXB. I live in West Lothian Scotland.
> I use a twin paddle key for CW, I have a few keys and decided to give my coffin
bug(BK-100) a try. Sadly as I was setting it up I dropped it and broke some of the plastic.
I looked around trying to find out if there is a person or company where I can obtain parts
for this key. I also have a KY 102 with a similar problem. Having seen your website I
thought that I could seek advise from the members.
>
> Thank you
>
> Bill McGill. GM0DXB. Fists 132. RAOTA 2091
>
>
> Sent from my iPad
>
>

# 2678. NAQCC December Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-12 02:43:15 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2678 Message: 2678

The December NAQCC sprint is this coming Tueesday evening local time (December 12th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, December13th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201712.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time, and hunt for the NAQCC Anniversary stations, too!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/

# 2679. NAQCC MilliWat Sprint Wednesday Night

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-20 01:18:36 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2679  Message: 2679

The December special MilliWatt Sprint is this coming Wednesday evening local time (December 20th,
EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM),
which translates as Thursday, December 21st, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201712mw.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

Come join us and have a real good time!

# 2680. FOC BUG DAY JAN 1 ZULU

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2017-12-29 05:54:52 UTC
From: Benny Owens
Topic: 2680  Message: 2680

FOC BUG DAY WILL RUN 24 HOURS ON JAN 1 ZULU TIME AND IS OPEN TO ALL HAMS. PLEASE DUST OFF THOSE NEGLECTED BUGS AND JOIN US. JUST CALL CQ BUG DAY. CONTACTS SHOULD COUNT FOR SKN ALSO. SEE K5KV ON QRZ OR https://g4foc.org/Bug-Day FOR MORE INFO.

PLEASE SEND ME A NOTE WITH A LIST OF BUG DAY QSOS WITH 2X BUG QSOS AND A VOTE FOR THE BEST BUG FIST HEARD.

HOPING TO WORK YOU WITH YOUR BUG.

73
BENNY K5KV

# 2681. NAQCC February Sprint this Tuesday Evening

Yahoo group: cw_bugs
Date: 2018-02-13 01:42:44 UTC
From: Larry W2LJ
Topic: 2426  Message: 2681

The February NAQCC sprint is this coming Tuesday evening local time (February 13th, EST - 8:30-10:30PM, CST - 7:30-9:30PM, MST - 6:30-8:30PM, PST - 5:30-7:30PM), which translates as Wednesday, February 14th, 0130 to 0330Z in all cases.

In UTC that's St. Valentine's Day - so don't forget your YLs and XYLs!

For all the "official" information, please go to:

http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint20108.02.html

There you will find all the details as to time, frequencies and other important information.

Certificates: SWA (simple wire antennas) certificates by call area, VE and DX for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers (New!). A Certificate for top score in the GAIN antenna category.

Prizes: Too many to list!! - check out the prizes page on our website.

This is a monthly event that caters to the CW veteran, the CW newcomer, straight key and bug fans. All are welcome to participate (this includes QRO); but you must use QRP power levels to compete for awards.

If you've been hesitant to join in our sprints because you hear other sprints running at breakneck speeds, have no fear. Our sprints are geared to the newcomer to CW and/or contesting. Virtually everyone including the many veteran contesters who regularly enter our sprints will slow down to YOUR speed to help you make your contacts.

If you are not already a member of NAQCC... membership is FREE! Now is your chance to join the largest QRP CW Club in the world!! We currently have 9000+ members in: All 50 States - 9 VE Provinces - 100 Countries. Sign up on the NAQCC website today (http://naqcc.info/) and receive a handsome certificate, with your membership number on it, which is good for life.

Come join us and have a real good time!

72/73 de Larry W2LJ
NAQCC #35

for NAQCC
http://naqcc.info/